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College and School News

The Hilltop, student publication at **Howard University** won first-class honor rating recently from the Associated Collegiate Press in competition with 405 other college newspapers.

Gammon Theological Seminary commencement speakers were President John W. Haywood of Morristown College and Rev. Earle A. Baker, First Methodist Church, Cedar Falls, Iowa.

West Virginia State College's latest bulletin is, "The Mental Abilities of Twenty-Nine Deaf and Partially Deaf Negro Children."

Dr. John W. Davis, President of the College, was re-elected for a three-year term on April 6, to serve as a member of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, at its annual meeting in Chicago.

The **Agricultural, Mechanical and Normal College**, Pine Bluff, Ark., has just published the first issue of its new publication known as The A., M. and N. College Informer.

Dr. Floyd R. Banks, physicist of **Morgan State College**, spoke on April 25, before the American Physical Society in Washington D. C., at the National Bureau of Standards of the National Academy of Science. Outstanding physicists of the nation attended.

Dr. Malcolm S. MacLean, Director of the General College at the University of Minnesota has been chosen as sixth president of **Hampton Institute**, and will assume office July 1, 1940. He is a scholar and administrator of national reputation.

At **Wiley College** on April 15, gathered 350 seniors from 10 Texas and Louisiana high schools to attend the Open House High School Day event.

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According to Dean W. E. Taylor of the **Lincoln University** (Mo.) School of Law, a limited number of scholarships will be available to meritorious students wishing to enroll for the year 1940-41. The Missouri State Board of Law Examiners has approved the Lincoln University School of Law.

The commencement address at **Alabama State Teachers College** on May 27, was delivered by Dr. Sherman D. Scruggs, president of Lincoln University of Missouri. Bachelor degrees were conferred upon 52 candidates. Diplomas were awarded to 108 junior college candidates and 60 high school candidates.

Bishop Francis J. McConnell of the Methodist Church delivers the commencement address at **Bennett College** on June 3. Dr. C. F. Jenkins, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, Columbus, O., delivers the annual address.

The Second Summer Institute will be held June 10-28, and offers scientific training in parent education, child development and consumer education.

$445,000 in gifts to **Bennett College** was recently reported.

New faculty members elected are Mrs. Marian Gandy Wyatt, acting director of home economics, and Mr. H. Alfred Farrell of Ohio State University, instructor in English.

Albert Wells, **Morehouse College** sophomore, hailing from Charlotte, N. C. was awarded first prize in a nation-wide exhibition of paintings by Negro artists with an award of $50 at the Fourth Annual Exhibit of Art held by Dillard University in early April. His painting, "Winter Landscape" was unanimously selected by the judges.

The tenth annual **Saint Philip Hospital Postgraduate Clinic** for Negro physicians will be held under the auspices of the Medical College of Virginia, at Richmond, from June 17 to 28. The clinic provides intensive instruction for graduate physicians in the fields of medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and surgery.

Among the interesting contents of The Quarterly Journal of **The Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College** is "A Brief Historical Sketch of the Little Theatre in the Negro College" by Frank G. Yerby.

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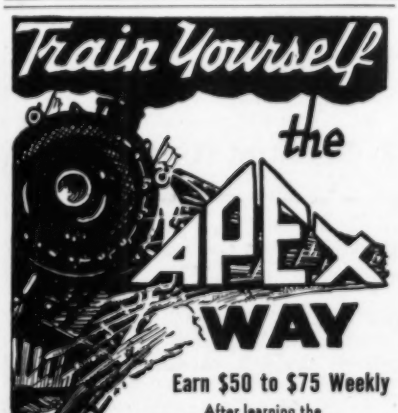

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Volume 47, No. 6 *Whole No. 354*

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A drawing by Pierre Noel

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910. *It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15c *a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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THE COVER

The drawing of the head of a girl is by Pierre Noel, a young Haitian artist now in America. Mr. Noel does all types of art work, but specializes in anatomical and entomological drawings. He has done illustrations for a number of scientific papers.

NEXT MONTH

Corinne Dean contributes next month a story of the underground railroad entitled, "Horns and Tails."

•

There will be also an article on the legal work of the N.A.A.C.P. by Benjamin Kaplan.

•

Also a number of pictures of branch officers, workers and events from the N.A.A.C.P. branches over the country.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Louis L. Redding is an attorney in Wilmington, Delaware. He is a member of the national legal committee of the N.A.A.C.P. and will be remembered for his article "Borah—What *Does* He Stand For?"

•

George S. Schuyler is the well known columnist and magazine writer.

•

Louis T. Achille is an assistant professor of French at Howard university.

•

Dr. Harold Moody is president of the League of Colored Peoples in London, and Dr. W. B. Mumford is head of the Colonial Department of the London University Institute of Education.

•

Special for Next Month
THE NEGRO IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY

Garner—In Public Life

By Louis L. Redding

Here is the Garner record on labor, the Negro, suffrage for women, and the liberal way of life

THAT the snow-white crest with which an unbroken span of thirty-eight years in Congress has crowned the ruddy visage of John Nance Garner is no halo is indicated by the C.I.O. leader's pithy characterization of the Vice President before the Senate Labor committee as "an evil old man." However, the widely advertised committee of Mr. Garner's fellow Texan and protege, Martin Dies, has for a long time now been demonstrating that name-calling, publicly, before a Congressional committee, can be a safe form of slander. It might therefore be profitable to see whether an aspirant for the Presidency has been defamed by the tag "labor-baiting, poker-playing, whiskey-drinking evil old man."

That he was once one of the most adept, persistent and plunging poker players in Congress and that he tosses down rye whiskey freely and with gusto are observations which reporters of the Washington back-stage rarely omit when describing the lusty frontiersman personality of Texas Jack. Until these traits were tied in with evil no one ever bothered to deny them. Even then the denials arose more from choler than candor. It has never been charged that these habits impaired his mental equipment or diverted him from performing his job as lawmaker as he conceives it. In the absence of such a showing, in a day when both drinking and gambling are robust government revenue producers, perhaps only the most captious would adduce a fondness for them to support the allegation "evil."

An opinion as to whether Garner is good or evil, moral or immoral, need not rest upon his privileged private conduct. A public officer is a legitimate object of scrutiny in his public life. It can be fairly asked: As legislator for four decades, what has Mr. Garner done to promote the general welfare? What impress has he made on human values?

Of no person who has served in Congress can such an inquiry be made with more pertinency and justice. Few men have enjoyed a tenure so long and so nearly unchallenged as his. No other man has ever been able deliberately to design and create for himself a new Congressional district according to his own personal specifications. After the census of 1900 showed Texas entitled to an additional representative in Congress, Garner, then a member of the Texas legislature, got himself appointed chairman of the redistricting committee and demarked a district embracing his own Uvalde county and twenty other counties, as he has said, "probably made up of a majority of people of Mexican descent and what might properly be called a Mexican population."

With the aid of potent landed interests and political bosses to whom he confessed his ambition to represent the new district in Congress, he manoeuvered approval of the district through the legislature. With the same aid, he got for himself the nomination from the Democratic state convention. After that, his election was an anti-climax. His reelection to each successive Congress, from the 58th to the 73rd, was of uneventful monotony—a chain of Texas election days on which illiterate Mexicans, their poll taxes paid by the bosses, were herded to the voting places

Acme

Vice President Garner leaving the White House

to have their ballots cast in proceedings in which they were often passive and uncomprehending spectators.

Against Railroad Hour Law

Labor-baiter? What *has* his attitude towards labor been? Has he militantly fought for amelioration of the imperfect lot of workers? Or has his been the conservative's vice—listless acceptance? Has his attitude been forthright and dynamic, albeit destructive of labor's standards? One of the earliest labor tests to which the then young Congressman was subjected came in 1907, when a bill was at issue limiting the hours of service of employees on railroads. A humane measure, beneficial, of course, to railroadmen, it also reduced the accident hazard to passengers from the fatigue of overworked trainmen. Creating more jobs and raising the wage load of rail carriers, it also reduced costly and deadly wrecks. The vote of 235 to 0 by which the House passed the bill showed no member with the effrontery actually to vote against it. However, young Mr. Garner, although close to the measure because he was then a member of the House Committee on Railways and Canals, declined to commit himself. He refrained from voting. Later he was to vote "no," with eight other Representatives in opposition to 256 yea votes, against the creation in the Department of Labor of a Women's Bureau "to investigate and formulate standards and policies to promote the welfare of wage-earning women," and five weeks after that vote he was counted for tabling a bill providing for the vocational rehabilitation of persons crippled in industry.

For Mexican Labor

One of the striking ironies of political demagogy is the fact that exclusionary immigration legislation, usually thought of as protection for American labor, should be a pet project of Congressmen coming from Dixie districts, where "furriners" are few and wages and working conditions the most wretched in America. Fighting the application of the restrictive quota law to Mexican immigrants, in 1928, Garner found himself arrayed against labor and against the traditional, if specious, attitude of Southern Congressmen on immigration. But he was squarely for the interests of the "twenty-one good counties" (his words) he represented as he, not in the character of elected legislator in a modern democracy, but in that of feudal overlord of many thousands of Texas acres, saw those interests. He relates the advantages of unrestricted, family labor:

> "A Mexican comes across the border with a two-horse wagon and brings his family, for instance. He brings his wife and his boy, a little girl, six or seven years of age—in fact, all he has. They go out into the cotton patch and work. It is true that the children might well be in school, but whether they would be in school if they were not in the cotton patch I do not know."

In those words, in 1924, he explained his vote, four years before, against the Child Labor Amendment and his vote years earlier against establishing a Children's Bureau in the Department of Commerce and Labor, to investigate and report on "all matters pertaining to the welfare of children," etc.

> "They," (the Mexicans) he continued, "will do grubbing and such menial tasks. Neither a Negro nor a white man will do that work. You couldn't get the white man to do that kind of work for less than $4 or $5 a day, and if you could get him to do it at any price he would not do half as much work in a day as a Mexican does for $1.75."

It is understandable that the late Heywood Broun, in February, 1939, would find the Mexican quarter of San Antonio, home of 90,000 Mexicans and on the fringe of John Garner's old district "the most fearful slum in America." Perhaps it had retrogressed since 1928 when Mr. Garner boasted: "The Mexican population in San Antonio is 100 per cent better than it was a quarter of a century ago."

Mexicans Easily Controlled

Let Mr. Garner explain this marvel of industrious and cheap Mexican labor:

> "The Mexican is subject more than any other person I have known to the mandate of authority. Mexicans coming out of Mexico are very tractable when dealing with authority. All one has to do is to have the sheriff or constable—the man who carries the gun—tell the Mexican to do so and so and the Mexican will do it."

Surely Mr. Garner (and his thousands of acres of pecan trees and his thousands of goats) could not have been in the mind of Representative John C. Box, Texas Democrat, when in the same discussion the latter remarked: "A man cannot study this question (Mexican immigration) from the standpoint of the public interest as distinguished from his financial interest without recognizing at least that it is a serious question."

When it was pointed out on the floor of the House that Mr. Garner "was strongly in favor of a tariff on cattle and hides but now wants free trade in labor," it was his fellow Texan, Representative Black, who rose to comment: "I think that is a correct interpretation of the gentleman's attitude."

It is apparent that the epithet "labor-baiter" was richly earned by John Garner long before, in the relatively uninfluential position of Vice President, he had a C. I. O. to hate. As Vice President, counseling the strategy of Bourbon Democrats and reactionary Republicans in endeavors to demolish the Wage-Hour Law, the National Labor Relations Act and W.P.A., he was able to do but slight harm. Labor might indeed thank Mr. Garner for one thing: that although reelected to represent his district in Congress at the same time that he was first elected Vice President, he resigned as Representative in order to preside over the Senate. If during these last seven years his hostility toward labor had been exercised in either of his earlier, more powerful posts of Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee or Speaker, much progressive labor legislation might have been garrotted in Committee.

"He is not a sectionalist. He is not a provincialist. He is not a factionist. He is more than a southerner." Thus redundantly bellowed Senator Tom Connally before the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1932 as he strove to inflate the Uvalde landlord and banker, one-time shortstop on the Possum Trot (Texas) baseball nine, to Presidential stature.

Believes Negro Inferior

It is true that Mr. Garner has not paraded white supremacy or Negro phobia in speeches of the length and frequency of those of many lawmakers from the southern sector. That, indeed, was not because he "is more than a southerner." Possessed of a high, shrill voice, he is something less than the average Southern Congressman in the knack of public exhortation and rabble-rousing. Besides, he is not only distrustful of his own oratory; he is afraid of the risks of speech-making. "When you make a speech you invariably displease a minority, which never forgets," he says. Garner with reason is afraid to talk publicly: almost any speech of his longer than a sentence shows his ineptness and ideas of the moldiest vintage.

The fear of a minority's displeasure did not deter him on February 27, 1909, when the House was considering a bill to restore to the army with lost pay, Negro infantrymen who had been peremptorily discharged by the President following a soldier-civilian riot at Brownsville, Texas. Informing his colleagues that Brownsville was in the district which he "had the honor to represent," John Garner launched into a sloppy argument against the bill. He declaimed:

> "Every time an act of this kind is passed it is calculated to and does encourage those people (the Negroes) to believe that they will

receive protection and even encouragement in their efforts to place themselves upon a social plane with the white race. This cannot be done. . . ."

And

"You may pass all the laws you please, place it in the Constitution, declare it from the pulpit, proclaim it from the mountain top, but there is no power on earth that will make the African the equal of the white man, and those who undertake it are doing both races a great injury."

The restoration bill did pass the House.

Opposed Negro in Army

Prior to the Brownsville affair, Mr. Garner's ventures in national statecraft had been confined to patronage pap bills "to pension" miscellaneous Texas residents and to erect Federal public buildings at Del Rio, Eagle Pass and other Texas crossroad towns. After Brownsville, he endeavored to augment his contribution to the nation's laws by introducing successively in the 59th, 60th, 61st, and 62nd Congresses bills to repeal the law authorizing the enlistment of colored men in the army. After the bills had died in Committee in four successive Congresses his persistence waned.

Texas so far forgot this proposal to bar Negroes from the army that, when the United States entered the World War, Texas draft boards sent one-third more Negroes to fill army draft quotas than the proportion of Negro males in the total population warranted, while sending whites in a lower ratio than their population figures warranted. This was only typical of draft boards in other southern states. Garner did not forget, however. After the war he was numbered with the out-voted "nays" on a bill to erect a monument in France "to commemorate the valiant services of all colored troops of the American Expeditionary Forces."

Other manifestations that Texas Jack is "more than a southerner" are not lacking. There is his vote to prohibit interstate transportation of prize-fight pictures, cast fifteen days after Negro Jack Johnson, on July 4, 1912, at Las Vegas, New Mexico, retained against white Jim Flynn the world's heavyweight boxing championship—a title which Johnson had twice previously been required to win from Nordics Tommy Burns and Jim Jefferies. There are also Garner's votes against a loan to Liberia; against providing for a celebration commemorating Negro emancipation; against increasing Civil War pensions while voting for increasing Spanish - American War pensions; against, repeatedly, anti-lynching bills; and against declaring Abraham Lincoln's birthday a holiday.

Refuses Aid to Howard

In 1928, when an amendment was sought to the federal charter of Howard University—the national institution for Negroes maintained in Washington by federal funds—so as to remove appropriations for that university from the risk of being killed by a point of order, Garner voted against the university. He was not moved by statistics put into the record showing that seventy Texans were in residence at the university; that the Negro population of Texas being 18.9 per cent of the total and white Texans receiving $487,289 of federal funds for higher education, Negro Texans were ratably entitled to $92,097, while actually they received $1,978. Mr. Garner could not justify his vote on the ground that adequate State funds were spent in Texas for the education of Negroes, for there also the disparity was considerable. Perhaps, with his conviction of the Negroes' inferiority, as shown by his Brownsville speech, he would have explained that he saw no need of wasting money on college training for them. Called "stingy and mean" with his own funds, he cannot be regarded as a sincere or habitual exponent of governmental economy in view of his support of the gigantic "triple pork barrel bill' of 1932 and his earlier alleged avowal that "every time one of these Yankees gets a ham I'm going to do my best to get a hog." It may be that he voted against the university simply because he was not sportsman enough to test his theory of white supremacy by voting money to educate Negroes.

Hostile to Feminists

Not very long ago the Vice President was photographed surrounded by a circle of smiling grandmothers, one of whom he was chucking under the chin with genial playfulness. He seems not to take women too seriously. Mrs. Garner and he are grandparents. For thirty-six years, in the capacity of her husband's government-paid secretary, she has written his dictation. "If a woman has independent ideas, she ought to give them up," Mrs. Garner says. It would seem that she believes women should take dictation not merely stenographically: "When her ideas conflict with her husband's decidedly, she must never tell them." And Mr. Garner, reacting like a fictional "chivalrous southern gentleman," is seen futilely trying to legislate marital tranquility by giving his all—his vote—in an unsuccessful effort to establish a whipping post in the District of Columbia for men who beat their wives.

But assertive feminists can count on no assistance from John Nance Garner. He voted against permitting women to serve on juries in the District of Columbia. He opposed making citizenship of native-born American women independent of the citizenship of their alien husbands. Thrice he voted against the Woman Suffrage Amendment. Four months before his last vote against it, Senator Sheppard, of Texas, had spread on the record a resolution of the Texas legislature calling upon the Senate "to act immediately and favorably upon the Woman Suffrage Amendment." In presenting the resolution Senator Sheppard stated that "an overwhelming majority of the precinct and county conventions (in Texas) declared for the national suffrage amendment."

Speeches vs. Action

Accepting his renomination at Philadelphia, in 1936, "with the stars of heaven to bear witness" to his covenant, Garner pledged renewed fealty to Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal. Mr. Garner declaimed:

"There must be no return to old conceptions denominated by the Old Deal. And what do we mean by the Old Deal? We mean a political system which fosters an economic order giving special privileges to a few favored ones through the sacrifices of the many."

That was a pretty speech. A little more than four years before, Garner had misguidedly plumped for a national sales tax—always a fruitful source of "sacrifices of the many"—when William Randolph Hearst, who also advocated such a measure, was puffing the Texan for the Presidency, through a nation-wide publicity system. It was believed that Hearst fought for a sales tax as a means of reducing the levy on his then huge personal fortune and that Garner's approval of it was in aid of Hearst.

At the party convention in Philadelphia, on that summer night, in 1936, out under "the stars of heaven," Garner's political sense did not need to be keen to dictate the language the running-mate of a progressive President seeking reelection should use. That language he used.

However, no such lip service to the cause of progress could overshadow these facts: that the district from which Garner had been returned to Congress fifteen successive times is in a state whose undemocratic political system, with its poll tax and white primary, disfranchises a substantial part of its population; that his district is in the heart of a region where economic servitude is the lot of thousands of Mexican peons and Negro workers; and that by reason of this political disfranchisement and economic servitude, it is almost impossible for any individual Texas Mexican or Negro to achieve the personal freedom which every citizen in a

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Garner—At Home

By George S. Schuyler

John Nance Garner, to the colored people in his home community, is kindly and courteous to individuals, but is not much on the Negro race as a whole

WHAT the white people of this country think about Vice President John Nance Garner, prominent candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination, is well known. Less well known is the opinion of colored people. Almost unknown is the attitude of the colored people who live in his home town of Uvalde, the colored people who remember him since his early days, who have worked for him and done business with him.

To get this information first hand was none too easy. The colored man who has known him longest is Joseph A. Williams of Eagle Pass, Texas, a little town of 5,000 population on the Mexican border across from the city of Piedras Negras, Mexico, and 160 miles by automobile road from San Antonio. Along flower-bordered roads, through wastes of mesquite and cactus, across the dry, rolling plains we hurried to Eagle Pass one hot afternoon in early April. Paul Johnson of San Antonio, the Williamses' nephew, was kind enough to drive me down.

Eagle Pass, more Mexican than white, is a clean and attractive town where Negroes are conspicuous by their absence. Mr. Williams owns a neat white house with spacious lawns located on a corner not far from the center of the community. He bought it in 1905.

Mr. Williams is a typical Texan, tall and rangy, white-haired, and 74 years old. He was born in Uvalde right after the Civil War and went to school there. In 1887 he went to El Paso and came to Eagle Pass first in 1888. He has a great store of information about the frontier country and the part Negroes played there through three generations. He started working for the Southern Pacific railroad in 1898 as engine watchman. Promoted to hostler, he served in that capacity for 20 years. He was machinist helper for 12 years until 1937 when he retired on pension.

There were many Negroes in Eagle Pass in those days, and they had a school and a church. Three-quarters of the inhabitants were Mexicans. Whites were much in the minority. The town was as wild and wooly as any depicted in the movies, with saloons and gambling dens going full blast, and killings an ordinary occurrence. Politics were strictly Republican. Negroes were in all sorts of work; cowboys, soldiers, cooks, laborers and porters. There was a Negro immigration inspector. Race relations were excellent and Negroes went everywhere. "The Negroes civilized the Border," he says.

An influx of whites of a different class plus the competition of Mexican labor has wrought great changes. There are only a handful of Negroes now who are recognized as such (many have become "Mexicans" through intermarriage, with their children attending the white school!). There are only four Negro school children now, taught by Mrs. Williams in her dining room. Politics are strictly Democratic and white supremacy, while not blatant or offensive, is nevertheless the rule.

Met Garner in '92

"I first saw Garner in 1892," said Mr. Williams. "I had just come out of school. This was in Uvalde. He was all right toward the Negroes there. Once, as a young lawyer, he represented a Negro against a white man in a horse stealing case. The white man stole the horse from the Negro. The white man's lawyer made a plea that his client was not a thief but a poor, honest workingman, and showed the jury the callouses in the hands of the accused.

"When Garner summed up the case to the jury, he said: 'Gentlemen of the jury, I know something about hands. A rope with a horse on the end of it will make callouses on a man's hands as well as honest toil.' The white man was found guilty and convicted.

"At one time he used his influence to get a colored girl in Prairie View State Normal School. He was then in the state senate. The girl was Miss Medonia Griffin.

"I remember Garner as a fine little old fellow who drank, gambled and was a gay blade. I voted for him when he ran for his first position as County Judge in 1884. I also voted for him for Congress in 1902.

"But Garner thinks about like all southern politicians. He will do anything for a Negro individually. I could always go to him and get any-

Home town folks speak. Left to right: Mrs. Texana A. McGrew who with her husband took care of Garner home for 14 years; Miss Birdie M. Williams, Garner cook and maid for six years; Mrs. Cicero Bell says Garner tips his hat; Paul Johnson and (right) his uncle Joseph A. Williams who has known Garner since 1892; a view of the Garner mansion at Uvalde; the Negro school at Uvalde secured with Garner's aid

thing for myself. But I don't think he is interested in the race as such."

The Williamses have been married for fifty years. Mrs. Williams is a short, rich Indian-brown, pleasant-faced, bespectacled little lady who has been teaching school for fifty years. Born in San Antonio, she has taught in such Texas towns as La Grange, Hondo, Bandera and Eagle Pass. Mrs. Williams is witty and sharp-minded.

They have two girls. One boy, a war veteran, and one girl are dead. All attended Prairie View of which Mrs. Williams is an alumna. They have four grandchildren. Three live in Eagle Pass. One attends St. Phillips College and the other St. Peter Claver high school in San Antonio. Their grandparents are paying for their education.

Eagle Pass was until recently in the district which sent Mr. Garner to Congress for innumerable terms. The Williamses have not seen him for many years, but both remember his unfailing courtesy. They have been members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for 25 years.

Uvalde in the Cow Country

Some 68 miles across the rolling green mesquite and cactus country, along roads bordered by scattered plots of purple, golden, white, yellow and blue flowers, and under clear blue skies touched with tufts of cloud, we sped northeast to Uvalde, another town of 5,000. It is an attractive plains community raising cows and goats, with broad streets and pretty homes. The Mexican element is most pronounced. As elsewhere in this country, the Mexicans, regardless of color (and many are more "Negroid" than some Negroes) go to the white grade and high schools. The Negroes have a 2-room school for the 183 colored folk in Uvalde county. There are 34 colored children in attendance.

The colored men work on the cattle and goat ranches, with some doing janitor and porter work in the town. The colored women do general housework. When the colored boys finish the 9th grade, there is nowhere else for them to go and not much work for them to do. The Uvalde school board does pay for their tuition but the Negroes find it too expensive to send their children 86 miles to San Antonio and maintain them there. However, there are seven girls going to high school in El Paso, four in San Antonio and one in Austin.

Head of the new brick 2-room Negro school is Mrs. S. E. Harris Johnson. She is assisted by Mrs. J. E. Kinchlow who teaches the 5th to 9th grades.

Garner Got Negro School

The new Negro school was built in 1938, but not until after a great deal of maneuvering and dickering. The P.W.A. had said that three schools must be built. Instead of building one for the whites, another for the Mexicans and another for the Negroes, one was built for the whites and that for the Mexicans was divided into two joining buildings. This left the Negroes out entirely. The school board wanted the Negroes to accept the abandoned Mexican school. The Negroes refused. It was then decided to do nothing at all for the Negroes.

At this juncture Mrs. Johnson wrote to President Roosevelt about the matter. The letter was referred to the P.W.A. which refused to act. Vice President Garner then took up the matter, ordered that a Negro school be built. Work was started on it at once.

Mrs. Johnson considers the present building inadequate in size and points to the lack of an auditorium. Across from the little school is a park, a block square, donated by N. B. Pulliam, a white man, who sold the school site to the city. The park has no equipment other than two basket ball standards. Application has been made for playground equipment and also for a library, and Mrs. Johnson is trying to get a playground director under the Recreation Council.

"We just keep waiting," she said. "They have so far refused."

Mrs. Harris-Johnson and Mrs. Kinchlow think the Vice President is a fine man. Mrs. Harris-Johnson, a native of Belton, Texas, has lived in Uvalde for 28 years.

Race Relations Good

Race relations in Uvalde are reported by the Negroes to be good. The outstanding white people will stand up for the protection of the Negroes. There is no friction between the Negroes and the Mexicans. They get along well, but there is no close association.

The majority of the Negro families own their homes. Rents are $5 or $6 a month. Most of the colored men are working as cowboys. Only one Negro is on the W.P.A. Pay for men is from $35 to $45 a month. Almost all of them are married. There are three churches, Baptist, Methodist Episcopal and A.M.E., all pastored by out-of-town ministers. They alternate Sunday services.

There is only one restaurant where Negroes can eat. This is a Mexican place where a small room is provided for Negro patrons. Another Mexican restaurant we visited invited Mr. Johnson and I to eat in the kitchen.

It is reported that several Negroes vote in Presidential elections. There are 4,064 eligible Negro voters in the 21st District but few vote. The vote for the Congressional district totaled 42,855 in 1936, the Democrats getting 37,964; the Republicans 4,891.

Negroes have appealed to Mr. Garner to help them get their boys into the C.C.C., there being so little opportunity for them to get jobs in Uvalde. Garner has refused aid on the ground that he never interferes with the direction of the C.C.C.

Garner Tips His Hat

"Mr. Garner is always courteous to colored people" declared Mrs. Cicero Bell. "He always tips his hat to me."

Mrs. Bell, a plump, pleasant, Indian-type matron, has lived in Uvalde since she came from Lavaca County at the age of ten years. Her husband is caretaker of the white school. She knows the Vice President very well and her husband is a good chum of Garner. Mr. Bell used to work for Garner's close associate and hunting partner, Mr. Brumfield.

She regards Mr. Garner as a very fine man who is nice to colored people, and she declares that she will vote for him if he wins the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Mrs. Bell says of the Mexicans, "We get along just fine. I would rather live among them than with some of my own people. But Negroes and Mexicans do not mix in Uvalde."

A little different picture of Mr. Garner was presented by Lawrence B. Kinchlow who has been in Uvalde since 1907, and owns his little home on a pleasant street. He has handled cattle all his life, is well-read, outspoken and fearless. When Paul Johnson and I visited him, he was convalescent, propped up in bed reading the daily paper. He lost no time and minced no words in expressing his opinion.

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Beautiful Child Contest

Pictures of the first contestants in the Beautiful Child contest will be published in the July issue. One dollar is paid for each photograph published. More pictures will appear in August, and in September the grand prize winner ($25) will appear on the cover. See contest rules and entry blank elsewhere in this issue. Send photographs TODAY.

Upwards to Citizenship In the French Empire

By Louis T. Achille

The French Colonial system is here defended from the attack of George Padmore, made in the March CRISIS

"LIBERTY, Equality, Fraternity." It is behind this still progressive slogan of the French Revolution that the various races and peoples of the French empire are uniting today more than ever, in order to protect and improve the most human form of colonial relationship that has existed in modern history.

George Padmore, in a well-documented article (Subjects and Citizens in French Africa, THE CRISIS, March, 1940), has questioned the value of the final achievements and happy successes of French colonization, by pointing at its unfinished products and unhappy failures. He has rightly drawn attention to the vast number of French African subjects who do not enjoy (as yet) the same rights as the very small minority of citizens in the older colonies.

But, would it be fair to reproach any army with its paucity of officers compared with its vast numbers of soldiers, or to judge the academic standards of a college by the first papers of its Freshman class rather than by the best results of its Seniors?

The conclusions of the above-mentioned article seem to raise two points: first, the principle of colonization itself, which the writer apparently condemns; second, the distinction between French colonial citizens and subjects, presented by the writer as a strict "divide and rule" policy.

First, so far as colonization is concerned, it is too late to prevent French imperialism: the conquest and colonization of Africa is a historical fact. Western civilization, with its search for material power and wealth, has exposed this whole planet to a general hunt for raw material destined for man's alternating comfort and destruction. Woe to those peoples that are rich in natural resources but weak in defensive power! This has been the predominant trend in the history of this Western civilization of which Mr. Padmore and I, and THE CRISIS, are a part. Colonization, which may be justified, when it uses humane methods, is a fact that we may regret but must admit today. Should the peoples of Africa now gain their freedom from the French, they would immediately become as many Ethiopias and Polands. The colonials of France, if they had to choose between her and another European — or American — guardian, would overwhelmingly decide in favor of the country that raises its arms at present to put an end to Nazi imperialism. Let no one believe that the French colonial elite, that has been portrayed as a class of traitors to its people, is not aware both of the practical inevitability of its present colonial status and of the considerable, lucky, advantages of its allegiance to the tricolor.

In the most pessimistic and negative attitude, it is a question of choosing the lesser of two evils. But French colonization, with all of its mistakes and even crimes, has proved itself not to be an evil to the colonial population. Not one of the territories and peoples under French rule would have been raised to their present economic, social, educational and hygienic condition, if it had not been for colonization. This, however, does not condone the appalling destruction and spoliation which has gone along with this progress. The problem becomes one of removing from colonization its inevitable injustices and cruelties.

Loyalty a Testimony

Such self-reformation has been done by the French colonial administration better than by any other colonizing power, as the enthusiastic and spontaneous loyalty of its colonials testifies. The rush to the colors which, in all parts of the empire, followed the declaration of war against Germany, bespeaks more than a cool preference for the lesser of two evils. It proclaims the natives' deep faith in "the French way," and a determination to preserve and improve it, to make it work into a colonial success, to say the least, unprecedented in modern history.

Most of these loyal peoples are the very "subjects" who have been described as a down-trodden, exploited mass. One of their deepest urges is to become "citizens." In this appears the judiciousness and wisdom of the distinction between these two degrees of membership in the French empire. It places a high price on the right to enjoy the benefits of modern democracy, which the French of France gained through centuries of struggle, suffering and sacrifice. Some colonials enjoy this right by birth, because they were born in territories that have been associated with France long enough to have imbibed the principles and ways of her present form of government. The others, late comers in the modern world, largely uninitiated to its privileges and responsibilities, partakers of different, antiquated civilizations, must gain this right.

Apprenticeship Required

Democratic rights have been proclaimed by the French Revolution itself to be inalienable, and innate to man. But the practical exercise of such rights in the particularly elaborate and extensive governmental set-up of a modern democracy, requires an apprenticeship that has not been even fully acquired by the white democracies. Would it seem reasonable for France to assimilate to the Parisian or the Guadeloupian voter, the African, Madagascan or Indo-Chinese subjects, who cannot speak the language used in the Palais-Bourbon, are not familiar with the past history of France, who, because of their general inability to read, are out of touch with the current issues which the Empire has to face, and who, finally, have not yet introduced into their own local civilizations these old traditions and principles that guide France's national policy? In other words, would it be reasonable and profitable to all concerned, by a mere stroke of the pen or a vote of the Chambers, to assimilate the unassimilated, identify the different, deny the obvious, and pretend that life is not a compromise between the ideal and Time?

To take a local example, would it seem sensible for the American government to give the right to elect the president of the United States to the peoples of Puerto-Rico and Alaska, whose past history and present condition are so foreign to those of the continental American citizen? Once the Puerto-Rican has come to these shores to share in the American life and gather the information necessary to intelligent voting, then is he ready to vote, then has he become actually an American, with all the privileges and responsibilities attached thereto.

The same is true of the French subjects and of their general unreadiness to partake in full citizenship. Once this condition has been removed, through a process profitable both to the French government and the native, although in different ways, many a subject may, without denying his own race, language, religion and civilization, receive full

political rights. Moreover, he may become integrated in the full life, not only of his native colony, but of the Empire at large, and of France proper.

Two individual cases come to my mind, of men born French subjects respectively in French West Africa and in Madagascar, both militant of the cause of their own peoples, and, by the way, brilliantly gifted. After fulfilling the requirements for citizenship, which were practically identical with their own intellectual development, their naturalization was a mere formality. At present, one, a pure black African, whose native language was not French, teaches that very language to young Parisian students, together with Latin and Greek. The other is an assistant in the School of Medicine of the University of Paris, where he applies the scientific methods acquired there to the study of his own race and to the increase of human knowledge.

Exceptional by the personal value of the men involved, the cases are, nonetheless, typical of the practically unlimited possibilities open to subjects of the French colonies, who, if unable by nature to achieve such successes, feel, however, an uplifting urge to work towards a form of life superior to their own, in many respects.

Some Exploitation Exists

Looking at the French empire, one should, therefore, bear in mind its diversity and how recently some of its component peoples (the largest ones, in fact), have been brought into it. There is no denying that the distinction between subjects and citizens, while it is justified by its realistic and educative virtues, serves at the same time the "imperialistic" aims emphasized by Mr. Padmore and many other critics of colonization. Conquered by force, often exploited by unscrupulous agents of industrial concerns (not without the indulgence or complicity of some selfish, careless officers), far removed from the controlling administrators, from Parliament and the tribunal of French public opinion, the natives of these larger and newer colonies have, at various times and in different regions, undergone the inhuman treatment denounced by famous French writers. While the government tries to and does remedy this condition so characteristic of the traditional capitalistic colonization, there is no doubt that it also endeavors to check revolutionary tendencies by discriminatingly granting full citizenship to the natives. But, oppressive and repressive as it may be, this system has a developing value which exposes the subject to the progressive and difficult tests of citizenship, in order to give birth to African nations which, in their already successful elites, render a homage to the practical soundness of this process of gradual assimilation.

Students of colonization are usually economists, sociologists or historians, and they tend to ignore or belittle the important moral and spiritual factors that enter into it. Had they been, at the same time, philosophers, psychologists or moralists, they would less often characterize colonization exclusively as an economic, political and military exploitation.

This is particularly dangerous and misleading in the case of a nation such as France, whose life, literature and civilization are so rich in spiritual contents. French colonization has done much more than exploit natural resources and put the natives to work; it has awakened in their consciences the dignity of the human personality, slumbering under the spell of ancestral traditions often exacting and totalitarian; it has invited them, originally by force, to enter into the modern civilized world of the automobile and the radio, by the regal road of French democracy where man is most respected regardless of his race, and to adopt as their own a legion of heroes, from Vercingetorix to Pasteur, not to mention Joan of Arc and Voltaire.

Forced into this empire, now the colonial peoples want to remain parts of it, with a loyalty that defies economic "laws" and speaks highly of their feeling for the greatest values of human life. Often their whole-hearted devotion to France's national heroes and glories is an inspiration to the French who have become blasé about them. This, a foreign observer can seldom notice and appreciate at its real value. A spirit cannot be seen or explained: it must be felt and learned by personal experience. The family spirit of the French empire escapes the stranger, often not without puzzling and tantalizing him.

Rush to Defend Empire

However, a spirit is revealed by the actions and expressions that it inspires. These are especially noteworthy at a time when the empire is in danger from without. With a patriotic fervor which brings to mind their spontaneous request, before the war of 1914, for the right and honor of doing their military service just like the Frenchmen of Europe, the Martinicans proclaimed, in September, 1938, that "the frontier of Martinique (a Caribbean island) is on the left bank of the Rhine." At the beginning of the present conflict, the natives of Togo and Cameroon, two former German colonies now French mandated territories, issued the following proclamation: "All the men in this country and we, the chiefs, are in agreement to refuse to be commanded by Germans. If the whites must have the command here, we demand that the French only have it. We want no other nation. We thank the French not only by word of mouth but with our hearts. . . . We used to have peace in the villages. Now there is a lot of talk being done and not only about marriages and crops. The rumor is that the Germans are going to take us over. Tell us how we could possibly want such a change now, since we are all right and the automobile road goes as far as Ngoassé? We are not goats to be given away as a dowry to be killed afterwards. The French are good to us: we want to keep them." Again, before the war, other natives were parading through Douala, carrying signs: "Born Frenchmen, we want to remain such unto death!"

No wonder that the natives from all parts of the empire, anticipating the call to arms, rushed to recruiting stations or wrote there such letters as this one, saying in part: "Like thousands of other Sudanese, I have offered the sacrifice of my life to the Fatherland, to protect it against the German monster. . . . I am burning with a desire to leave for the front. . . . This war concerns us as much as the French of France. By fighting side by side with our white brothers, we, Africans, are fighting for our own cause."

No wonder that such men become excellent fighters. Soon they were noted and rewarded with highest decorations. Sergeant Krache Saïd Ben Moussa won the "médaille militaire" with the following mention: "A calm, courageous non-commissioned officer, volunteering for all dangerous missions. Having penetrated into a mine field at the head of a group, he succeeded in blowing up several mines, thus making it possible for the section to reach its objective. Was wounded."

Such actions and pronouncements do not seem to reveal much discontent among the colonial subjects; or else they should have to be considered as fools, or easily fooled, beyond the sense of self-preservation. In which case, it is obvious that they are not ready to exercise full citizenship.

Will Win Control

On the contrary, the loyalty of these men will soon win for them a part in the control of their own home land and of the whole empire. By assimilating themselves to the Breton and the Provençal peasants, to the worker of Lille and St. Etienne, to the student of Grenoble, the industrialist of Rouen and the poet of Paris, they have signified to the French government that the time

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Colored Peoples in the British Empire

By Harold Moody and W. B. Mumford

ON December 14, 1939, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald received in his office at the Colonial Office a deputation from the League of Colored Peoples and for two hours discussed with them the problems of subject peoples within the Empire. He listened with evident sympathy and assured them that it was the determined policy of His Majesty's Government both at home and overseas to put aside any discrimination based on race, color or creed. Furthermore he assured them that this policy was not inspired by war conditions but was one which had been decided many years ago.

The difficulty, however, cannot be solved merely by liberal pronouncement by one man, nor even by changes in government regulation—though such changes are of fundamental importance. The problem is how to educate public opinion in this country and overseas to recognize and feel comradeship with the vast numbers of different races in our common empire and who share our ideals: a comradeship which, on the one hand, will ensure that guests from overseas, who come to Britain either for purposes of study or for visits, are received with courtesy, and which, on the other hand, will insure that in all relations between Britain and overseas subjects the latter will receive a "square deal."

During the past forty years there has been a continually increasing number of young men and women from the British colonies who have, after a full course of "schooling" in their home lands come on to Britain to take university courses. The majority of those who have taken such courses have proved their ability and, in some cases, their achievements have even surpassed those of their European fellow students. It is the reasonable demand of such persons that in the granting of appointments (a) in the Civil Service in their home lands in particular and (b) in the service of the British Commonwealth in general, selection should be based on qualifications, not color of skin. To most people this claim may seem undeniable, but there have been difficulties.

Discriminatory Treatment

Twenty-five years ago, Sir Gordon Guggisberg, Governor of the Gold Coast, announced that British policy was the progressive appointment to the Civil Service in Africa of qualified Africans; yet, in spite of the fact that there seems no evidence of a lack of Africans qualifying themselves for such appointments, there are fewer Africans in the European Civil Service in the Gold Coast today than there were when this pronouncement was made. Again, on the outbreak of the war, a wireless appeal was made for dental surgeons for the Royal Air Force, and a West Indian—Dr. March—with exceptional qualifications applied, but was refused on grounds of his non-European racial descent.

The articles by George Padmore in THE CRISIS on the colonial policies of Britain and France caused considerable discussion in this country and abroad, one comment appearing in the important West African Review. Here Dr. Moody presents what he calls "another side of the picture." Elsewhere in this issue will be found a reaction to Mr. Padmore's discussion of French colonial policy

Yet again, just before the war, a Mr. Jones, a native from West Africa and a graduate of Oxford, applied and was accepted as a volunteer in a London A.R.P. group. After some weeks of work in a stretcher party he was asked to leave as certain of his fellow-workers objected to association with a colored man. These are just three examples out of a large number of cases.

With regard to qualified colored men applying for posts in the army, navy or air force, the Secretary of State has announced that colored persons in his country will be accepted for the armed forces and considered for commission on equal terms with those of European descent: Dr. March and other have actually received commissions. With regard to the appointment of suitably qualified native colonials to posts in their own government where, indeed they should have preferential consideration, we have no doubt that the Secretary of State will take an equally liberal attitude, though we still await a public statement in unequivocal terms. With regard to the last example, namely colored prejudice in this country, there is an obvious need for the education of public opinion.

Hatred for Hitlerism

As an example of the degree to which the colored peoples of the Empire identify themselves with Britain at this time, one has only to refer to the colonial daily press. The peoples of the British dependencies, particularly in West Africa and the West Indies, feel that this war is their concern even more than it is that of Poland or Czechoslovakia: Hitlerism stands for the subordination of the interests of minorities and "dependent peoples" to those of a superior race—the Aryans. They know how he has treated Jews, they have been told in "MEIN KAMPF"—where they are called semi-apes—what will be their lot if Germany wins. In contrast, they believe in the honesty of Britain's ultimate purpose—to grant them freedom and treat them as equal peoples in a Greater Commonwealth — they have therefore made what to them are great sacrifices and great gifts and offers of services in the war against "Hitlerism."

They have, unfortunately, been disappointed in the reception of their offers: they note the applause given to the Dominions, and share, with Britain, in praising the landing of first Canadian and then Australian troops in Europe. They know they cannot make contributions on the same scale but they want acceptance of the "widow's mite" which they can offer. They also want to play a direct part in the actual theatre of war. Perhaps, before long, the West Indies, Malaya, West Africa and other areas might each be allowed to form and equip a small Air Squadron—financed by them, officered and manned by them? Such a gesture, a welcoming of aid from the "younger" brothers of the Empire, would go far to undo misunderstanding and give them faith in themselves and in the common cause.

For Self-government

Turning to the problem of how Britain can and must help to make government in the colonies really *"for the people,"* there is general agreement among leading British authorities that the sooner the inhabitants in each and every colony attain self-government the better it will be for the colonies themselves, for the real unity of the Empire and for Britain. Progress to this goal may in the past have been halting, and

(*Continued on page* 186)

American Negro Exposition

An important exhibit will be staged in Chicago, July 4 to September 2

A BEAUTIFULLY designed special center display and Hall of Fame which will depict the important events, individuals and achievements symbolizing the history of the race will be one of the most attractive features of the American Negro Exposition when it opens at the Coliseum on July 4 to run for 60 days through September 2.

This big display will greet the visitor as soon as he enters the huge Coliseum. In the center of the main floor, which measures 305 feet by 171 feet long, will be a replica of the tomb of Abraham Lincoln, the great emancipator whose memory is being revered by the Exposition. Every detail of the original tomb at Springfield has been faithfully reproduced and the replica will stand close to 15 feet in height.

Surrounding the tomb will be a large rectangle containing 20 dioramas, each three feet high, four feet wide and almost two feet deep. More than 70 artists are currently working on these dioramas and some are completed.

The dioramas will dramatize incidents in racial history. Special artistic cases six feet tall will house them. Above them will be huge niches for life size figures of great Negroes, both living and dead, which will constitute the Hall of Fame.

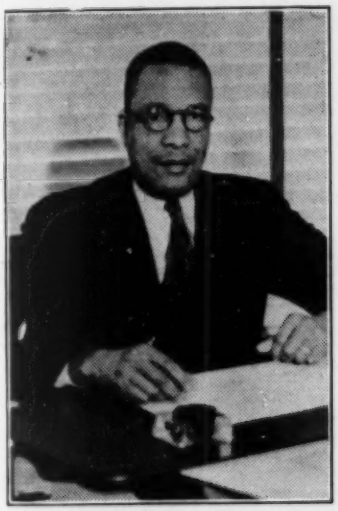
Story in Murals

A large part of the Negro's history will be told pictorially by mural. There are 24 now being painted under the supervision of William Edouard Scott, internationally famous artist.

Such events from the history of the race in America and the world as the death of Crispus Attucks in the Boston Massacre, Matt Henson's trip to the North Pole, the voyage of the black pilot with Columbus on the discovery of America, the building of the sphinx and the pyramids in Egypt, iron smelting in Africa with the first cupolas and similar happenings will be pictured.

Seven murals will symbolize participation by Negro soldiers in the wars of America. A special mural will show the patriotism of the colored American.

In addition to this especially prepared work, there will be a whole section in the Exposition devoted to Negro Art under direction of the Harmon foundation with the curator of the art museum of Howard university in charge.



JAMES W. WASHINGTON
President of the Exposition

Literature Display

The finest collection of Negro literature ever assembled will be on display throughout the duration of the Exposition.

A special section will be devoted exclusively to Negro literature. Material is being assembled by Mrs. Dorothy B. Porter, curator of the Moorland foundation at Howard university, who will have charge of this exhibit.

It is planned to make this exhibit all-inclusive. Books by colored authors, both current and out of print, will be shown. Rare old volumes now highly prized by collectors and impossible to obtain otherwise are to be displayed along with tomes by contemporary writers. There will also be exhibited original manuscripts in the handwriting of the authors.

In addition to books and manuscripts, rare old newspapers and magazines, many now out of print, brochures and pamphlets will be shown. In this way it is hoped to give a comprehensive picture of Negro literature from Phillis Wheatley and Jupiter Hammond down to present day writers.

$75,000 from U. S.

The United States senate on May 14 passed the bill introduced by Sen. James Slattery of Illinois appropriating $75,000 in federal funds for the Exposition.

The measure, since it was approved by the house of representatives eight days before the passage in the senate, has only to be signed by President Roosevelt to become valid. The presi-

(*Continued on page* 178)

Robert Jones, one of the staff of artists at the Exposition, working on one of the statues which will adorn the replica of Lincoln's tomb at the Chicago exposition

Philadelphia Welcomes

DR. HARRY J. GREENE

President Greene's Welcome

The Philadelphia branch appreciates the great privilege and honor it has in entertaining the thirty-first annual convention of the N.A.A.C.P. We welcome the branches, delegates, and friends from other communities to our historic city, and shall give all the time and effort possible to seeing that your visit here is a happy and beneficial one.

For the past year, the local branch with assistance of its many friends in Philadelphia, has been preparing for your comfort and entertainment here during the week of June 18 to 23.

It is our fervent wish that our Convention this year will be one of your finest and most outstanding in a long line of cherished and worthy accomplishments, and we are sparing nothing toward this end.

The General Arrangements Committee for the 1940 conference of the NAACP. Seated are: Mrs. C. Essie Boswell, registration; Miss Harriett Conway, hospitality; Mrs. Florida Williams, program; Miss Gretchen James, assistant chairman, memberships; Mrs. Gladys Thomas, cuisine. Standing: Richard F. America, executive committee; Dr. T. A. Williams, chairman, memberships; John Battiste, executive committee; Raymond Pace Alexander, finance; Miss Evelyn Terry, secretary; Dr. Harry J. Greene, branch president; Dr. Charles A. Lewis, citizens; G. James Fleming, publicity; Herbert T. Miller, treasurer. Not present for the picture were Miss Mamie Davis, chairman, housing committee; Charles W. Dorsey, sightseeing; Miss Beulah Creditt, entertainment. (All photos by Mosley)

THEODORE O. SPAULDING

The general chairman of the local conference committee of the coming annual meeting of the NAACP is Theodore O. Spaulding, who has been chairman of the legal committee of the Philadelphia branch for nearly five years. Mr. Spaulding is an attorney for the HOLC and counsel for the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company

N.A.A.C.P. Conference

Arrangements for the Youth Council conference will be in charge of the young people pictured at the left, members of the Philadelphia Youth Council: Left to right, front row, Frances Gardner, president, Algemina McKinley, Gladys E. Brown, Marion Chavis, Ann Harrison, Mary Lassiter; second row, Inez Elzie, Muriel Ollivierre, William Lucas, Evelyn Carrington; back group, Clifton Best, Willie W. Williams, William Lassiter, and John Hughes

Mayor Robert E. Lamberton (right) is the honorary chairman of the Philadelphia conference committee. The mayor recently named Attorney Herbert E. Millen (left) member of the finance committee of the branch, to the highest post ever held by a Negro in the state, the position of assistant director of public safety—second in command of 7,000 policemen and firemen

MISS FRANCES GARDNER

Miss Frances Gardner is president of the Philadelphia Youth Council and a most spirited worker for the NAACP. She has attended the last three annual conferences of the Association

Garner's Public Life

(*Continued from page* 169)

democratic society has a right to experience as a commonplace of his daily life.

John Nance Garner has had a long public life. If he is immoral—an "evil old man"—it is because he has not once struck out against the patently bad conditions which depress and degrade human values in his own state. To the movement of progressive social forces he has remained indifferent or hostile, and he has carried this indifference and hostility into the wider national area in which he has accumulated such an impressive and potent seniority. Doubtless the belief that he has earned Mr. Lewis' opprobrious designation contributed to the results in the recent primaries of mid-western states, the returns from which are interpreted as heralding John Nance Garner's exit from the national scene.

Garner at Home

(*Continued from page* 171)

"Always for Garner"

"I wish every colored man was as well acquainted with Garner as I am," he declared. "He never did give a poor man a chance and never will. He is always for John Nance Garner. He's not the right man for President. The impression of most people is the same as mine." Mr. Kinchlow is a Republican who voted for Roosevelt in 1932.

Mr. Kinchlow revealed that at one time he was in partnership with the Vice President for eight months operating a 40-acre goat ranch on shares. "I was told I would never get along with him; that he was too 'tight.' They were right, too.

"He was a good employer but I've had better. He wanted me to put in too much of my time for Mr. Garner. I wouldn't put in all of my time for him. After a time he said. 'Well, I'll tell you, this is too expensive. I'll sell you the goats and take a mortgage'."

This dissolved the partnership. Mr. Kinchlow has the cancelled Garner-Kinchlow bank checks as souvenirs of the 8-month partnership.

The general impression of most of the Negroes is that Mr. Garner is a pretty tight customer to deal with in business.

Garner's Maid Non-Committal

Maid and cook for the Garner family for the past six years is young Miss Birdie M. Williams, who was born in Uvalde County and finished eight grades at the little Negro school. Her father is a farm laborer. She is 19 years old and has full charge of the 13-room Garner mansion. When the Garners are absent in Washington, she goes to the house once a week to tidy up.

When I asked her what she thought of the Vice President, she replied, "What do you expect me to say?" And she said very little, which is, of course, understandable. She did admit that, "He is just the fellow for any job he wants. He would suit any place."

Much more outspoken was Mrs. Texana A. McGrew, the spry little Garner laundress who, with her late husband, worked for the Garners for fourteen years.

"I'm not going to tell anybody who I'll vote for," she emphatically declared. "The Republicans freed us but the Democrats sure have fed us. But I'll tell you this: It takes a Christian man to rule this world, and Mr. Garner is no Christian. I've told him that to his face."

Mrs. McGrew came to Uvalde thirty years ago. "When I came here it was just woods," she said. She speaks highly of Mrs. Garner. "She is a very sweet woman. Never denied me anything in my life. They say the family is not complete until I come around."

Of the Vice President's son, she remarked: "To Tully Garner every man looks alike regardless of color. He's a wonderful boy. Of course they're all nice to me because I'm a Christian woman and always have been."

She declared that "If John Garner tells you he is going to do a thing, he will do it."

Her husband, C. H. McGrew, quit the Garners sometime before he died seven years ago. "He never would go back. They even came down to the house for him but he wouldn't go back. You see, the work was very hard. Sometimes we worked until two o'clock in the morning, but we always got a tip for that. Of course there are some things I'd rather not tell. It wouldn't do any good."

The old lady seems world weary and lonesome. "I'm tired of living among Mexicans," she declared emphatically. "I haven't been happy for seven years. I'm tired of living alone. I would go to San Antonio to live but all my friends are here. I tried to beg me a little girl. She wanted to stay with me but they wouldn't let her. It's mighty hard not to have anybody."

Mrs. McGrew still does laundry work for the Garners. She owns her neat little home at 235 N. Grove Street, and a 45-acre farm across the state near Tyler, where she was born and raised.

The Uvalde Negroes generally do not believe that Mr. Garner will shorten his title to President, but it is evident they are proud of the prominence he has given their town. To them he is "tight" and "sharp" in business matters, but otherwise a good man who has never done anything against them, and very little for them.

Exposition

(*Continued from page* 175)

dent then will appoint a commission of three persons including one senator, one representative and one other citizen to work with the Exposition Authority in disbursing the fund. It is believed that Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell of Chicago, author of the lower house bill, and Sen. Slattery will be the two congressional commissioners.

The federal grant will equal the $75,000 appropriated by the state of Illinois last July for the event and will bring to $150,000 the sum obtained from these sources for a sustaining fund. This is exclusive of the $15,000 given by the Julius Rosenwald fund to help underwrite the first real Negro World's Fair in history, or the $15,000 set aside by the General Education Board for a special film on Negro education to be shown at the Exposition.

Favorable congressional action insures complete cooperation by all branches of the United States government in making the event a success.

Farm Exhibit

One of the largest exhibits will be that prepared by the department of agriculture under direct orders from Secretary Wallace. Occupying a space approximately 80 feet by 52, the exhibit will show the Negro under a plantation economy, during reconstruction, the development of farm tenancy and the work of the FSA in stabilizing present conditions and the participation of the race in that program. Model farms are being prepared and 4-H boys and girls will give regular demonstrations of all work done including canning, mattress making, cooking, fashion shows, homemaking, etc. The agricultural display, like all other federal exhibits, will show the history and achievements of the Negro in that field instead of merely publicising the work of the agency.

The department of labor is preparing an exhibit of Negro slave workers, the development of craft and industrial workers during the reconstruction period, migration to cities and their further integration into American industry during the world war period, and their present position in industry.

Editorials

Editor, ROY WILKINS
Advisory Board: Lewis Gannett, Arthur B. Spingarn, Sterling A. Brown, William Allan Neilson, Walter White, Charles Edward Russell, Carl Murphy, John Hammond

War Crisis Forces Britain To Drop Army Color Bar

—Headline from The Chicago Defender

Example for America

THE headline above is from a weekly paper and the news story accompanying it tells of the final admission of "non-European" British subjects to the Royal Air Force of the British empire. One Captain H. H. Balfour, under-secretary for air, is declared to have told the House of Commons that applications were being received and several candidates had been accepted.

This news comes on the heels of the information, carried widely in American daily papers some weeks ago, that Britain has lifted the color bar in the army and is receiving applications of "non-Europeans" for officer's training camps.

The sweep of Hitler's forces into Norway prompted the acceptance of Negroes as officers in the army. The savage drive of Hitler's legions to the very doorstep of London evidently has lowered the bars against Negro war plane pilots.

Our country, too, has been affected by the German lightning marches through Holland, Belgium, and Northern France, and our citizens, high and low, from President Roosevelt on down, have taken up the cry for national defense.

The President wants 50,000 airplanes and supplemented that request later with an announcement that 50,000 pilots would be trained in the fiscal year beginning July 1.

An extra appropriation of $1,182,000 for defense has been voted by the Congress in addition to the regular appropriation of more than two billion dollars. The Army and the Navy have begun a new recruiting drive. Airplane manufacturers have been asked to expand plants. Training schools for badly-needed mechanics are being proposed.

At the same time, moves are being made to guard against "fifth column" traitors and saboteurs.

But the traditional attitude toward Negro American citizens remains the same. Even now, as our country dashes about shouting about billions for defense and death to traitors, about the sweetness of democracy and the terror and degradation of dictatorship, Negro citizens are being insulted and humiliated before their fellow Americans.

Not a single Negro officer serves with the United States regular army. Only one of the four Negro regiments apparently is actually maintained as a combat unit. The crack New York national guard regiment, the 369th, which made a glorious record in the World War, in recent weeks was ordered by the War Department to be designated hereafter as "Colored."

The Navy continues to advertise for recruits, but enlists Negroes only as mess attendants.

The air corps remains lily-white. So do the marine corps, the tank corps, the artillery, the coast guard, the engineers, the signal corps and other branches of the service.

All this is piled up upon the unforgotten treatment of Negro soldiers during the World War.

Belatedly, in an hour of greatest need, with flashes from German guns visible across the English channel, and with German bombers droning over England, the British have tossed overboard their color prejudices. Ironically enough, Hitler, the bitterest enemy of the democracies, is forcing a democracy to be democratic.

The Negro always has been loyal to his country. He will not be found in any "fifth columns." To a man he will fight if America is invaded, but it would be better for him and the cause of national unity and defense if he were not forced to perform bitterly under the lash of insult and discrimination. Aside from moral and patriotic considerations, the Negro deserves better from the country's national defense program because he is sharing the burden of taxes for it. Yet his young men are denied not only the honor of service, but the wages and training in skills which will be valuable in civilian life.

Will it take German fifth columns here and in Mexico, German submarines off the Atlantic coast, and German bombers based in Central and South America to make America give its largest minority equality of opportunity?

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Whose Army Is It?

Pittsburgh *Courier*, Pennsylvania

THE next fiscal year will see about $100,000,000 of Negroes' money spent on the United States Army.

The total expenditure will be around a billion dollars and we pay a tenth of this country's taxes.

So Negroes own a pretty big interest in the United States Army, at least one-tenth of it, if it should ever be divided up.

But to the Negrophobic officer caste and their instrument, Secretary of War Harry W. Woodring, the United States Army is a white man's army.

All the key branches of the U. S. Army are manned exclusively by white men.

They get good pay and allowances and learn something useful for use in civil life when their military careers are ended.

In addition to service in the infantry and cavalry, these fortunate white men serve in the engineers, the artillery, the signal corps, the tank corps, the air corps, the ordnance department, and many other special services.

Negroes are restricted to service in the infantry, the cavalry, the quartermaster corps and, to a limited extent, the medical corps.

The cavalry regiments (9th and 10th) are principally used as chambermaids for cadets' and officers' horses and equipment at the military academy and the various service schools.

One infantry regiment (25th) is a combat unit which has been exiled in the Arizona desert since the end of the World War.

The other infantry regiment (24th) is still being punished for its participation in the Houston riot by exile in western Georgia where it is reported to have little or none of the equipment of a combatant unit.

That is the extent of the Negro's service in "his" army.

Negroes are barred from all other branches of the military service.

They are the victims of taxation without representation.

Secretary of War Woodring is in error when he writes to Attorney Charles H. Houston, of Washington, D. C., when he states that:

"All troops perform services of all sorts regardless of color and there are no regulations that apply especially to colored soldiers . . ."

Secretary Woodring knows that a white infantryman can transfer to the artillery but that a black infantryman cannot.

Secretary Woodring knows that the Negro cavalrymen who have been assigned to duty as servants or "dog robbers" do not perform "all services" but only domestic services.

Secretary Woodring knows that whereas all commissioned officers serve alternate periods with troops and away from troops on staff or special service, the few Negro officers have been kept away from troops as much as possible, especially when they become field officers.

Secretary Woodring knows that no Negro youth skilled in chemistry could enlist in, say, the infantry, and then transfer to the Chemical Warfare Service, as white youths can and do.

Secretary Woodring knows as well as we do that if a young colored man qualified in every way for service in, say, the Signal Corps should apply for enlistment in the Signal Corps, he would be turned down unless he agreed to accept service in the infantry, cavalry or Quartermaster Corps.

There may not be any written regulation saying that Negroes will not be accepted in the special services, but the FACTS are as stated, and Secretary Woodring and his officer caste know it.

The United States Army must cease being a white man's army and become a citizens' army. The American people wish it so.

Negro ball players in the big leagues! Those who fling far and wide their smooth sounding platitudes about American democracy should be asked: What about it, yeh! that's right, what about Negro ball players in the big leagues? They just ain't there—yet. But where is our vaunted fair play?

We have always called baseball a sport. Baseball is a million dollar business. As are most big businesses, it is a jim-crow affair. And as most big businesses do, it takes in hundreds of thousands of dollars from Black men and gives nothing in return.

In the East, 12 college sports editors have created a committee to end jim-crow in baseball. The committee should be a nationwide affair. The Negro press from one end of the country to the other should play a leading role in this fight.

Let's get going against jim-crow in Big League baseball. Put some color on the base lines . . . Chicago, Ill., *Defender*.

The National Negro Congress, in accepting CIO and Communist money, has also fallen in the pit along with the decaying bones of the countless thousands of thoughtless and selfish Negro leaders of ages past. Only the former president, A. Philip Randolph, has had the courage to speak out against the leaders of the Congress for accepting $100 a month from the Communist Party and for linking up with Labor's Non-Partisan League.

And as Randolph reasons, Negro people cannot afford to add to the handicap of being black the handicap of being "red." There is every indication that the Congress has become "red," a Communist front, as charged by the Dies' committee . . . St. Louis, Mo., *Call*.

This week has been set aside by the National Negro Insurance Association for the national observance of our advancement in the field and to pay tribute to some of the pioneer insurance men who charted the course for so many to follow.

According to statistics of the Association, over 15,000 executives, officers and salesmen of insurance will participate in the celebration. Over forty-two major companies are members of the national insurance organization. The association set aside the week of May 6 to 11 as Insurance week because it was felt that the general public lacked knowledge as to the extent and importance of the Negro life insurance business. Officials of the association have reported that the business is valued at $350,000,000 and that they have legal reserves of $22,000,000 . . . Detroit, Mich., *Chronicle*.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Mayor LaGuardia, John L. Lewis Head Speakers for N.A.A.C.P. Conference, June 18-23

Tindley Temple, Broad and Fitzwater streets, Philadelphia, where the 31st annual conference of the N.A.A.C.P. will meet June 18–23, inclusive

A BATTERY of speakers headed by Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia of New York, Alderman Earl B. Dickerson from Chicago, John L. Lewis, chairman of the CIO, and Arthur B. Spingarn, president of the N.A.A.C.P., will headline the activities at the 31st annual conference of the N.A.A.C.P. which meets in Philadelphia, Pa., June 18–23, inclusive.

Sessions will be held in historic Tindley Temple on Broad Street below Fitzwater, and on the opening night, June 18, the delegates will be welcomed to the city by Mayor Robert E. Lamberton. The principal addresses of the evening will be delivered by John L. Lewis, who will talk on the Negro and labor, and by Arthur B. Spingarn, N.A.A.C.P. president, who will give the keynote address of the conference.

The mass meeting on Wednesday night, June 19, will be the setting for the presentation of the 25th Spingarn medal to Dr. Louis T. Wright. The presentation will be made by Dr. Russell L. Cecil of New York at the conclusion of his address on "Public Health and Medical Service."

Also on Wednesday night, one of the important speeches of the conference will be given by Alderman Earl B. Dickerson of Chicago, whose topic is "Political Action for the Negro."

At the Thursday night session, June 20, there will be an address on the legal victories of the N.A.A.C.P. by Arthur Garfield Hays, eminent attorney of New York and member of the association's national legal committee. Mr. Hays is expected to point out the significance of the N.A.A.C.P.'s legal battles on the maintenance of civil liberties in the United States.

On Thursday night, also, the delegates will hear the Honorable Herbert E. Millen, named only recently as assistant director of public safety of Philadelphia. Mr. Millen, an outstanding attorney and for a number of years president of the Philadelphia branch of the N.A.A.C.P., will speak on "Police Problems in Urban Centers." The other speaker at the Thursday night meeting

will be Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the association. Friday night, June 21, will be youth night, and a high point of the session is expected to be the speech of William Anderson, leader of the Greeneville, S. C., youth council, who was arrested and otherwise intimidated last summer because of his efforts to have Negroes register and vote in a local election.

The main address of the evening will be given by Aubrey Williams, head of the National Youth Administration. A short talk will be given, also, by Miss Bathrus Bailey, president of the N.A.A.C.P. college chapter at Virginia Union University.

Mayor LaGuardia and Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary, will be the headline speakers for the closing meeting Sunday afternoon, June 23. This meeting will be held at the Metropolitan Theatre, Broad and Poplar Streets, and will be broadcast. It is expected that Mayor LaGuardia's talk, in view of his outstanding appointments of Negroes in New York City government and his frequent assertions that they have proved to be competent and skillful administrators, will urge a much better deal for Negro citizens in local, state, and national governments. Mr. White will outline the attack on problems for the coming year.

Question Panel

Of great interest to the branches and our delegates will be the session on Friday afternoon, June 21, when the entire staff of the national office will be available for a question and answer panel on matters pertaining to branch work and the association's program in general.

This is the first time such a panel has ever been organized at an annual conference, and delegates will be free to ask all manner of questions on procedure and program.

Another session on branch work is slated for Wednesday afternoon, June 19, when the topics of state conferences, multiple branches, and cooperation of the church and the N.A.A.C.P. will be discussed. The speakers will include Dr. James J. McClendon, president of the Detroit, Mich., branch; the Reverend Daniel L. Ridout, president of the Bridgeton, N. J., branch; Editor Roscoe Dunjee, Dr. D. W. Anthony, and Dr. J. M. Tinsley, presidents respectively of the Oklahoma, New Jersey and Virginia state conferences.

Economic and job security touching upon labor unions and legislation to protect workers will be discussed Wednesday morning, June 19.

Politics in Spotlight

Since the conference comes prior to the conventions of the major political parties, the topic of political action is expected to occupy a good deal of attention at the Philadelphia meeting.

John L. Lewis has hinted that he intends to invite colored people through their organizations to affiliate with a third party proposal.

The question of what the Negro should do in politics this year and what he should demand is expected to be debated thoroughly in the session Thursday morning, June 20, when Dean William H. Hastie of the Howard university law school will lead a discussion on the topic "The Relationship of the N.A.A.C.P. to Political Parties." After Dean Hastie's outline, there will be free discussion from the floor so that all opinions may be aired.

Thursday afternoon, June 20, the delegates will discuss what N.A.A.C.P. branches can do about health. Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferebee of Washington, D. C., will preside. Mrs. Ruth Logan Roberts will talk on community health services and Dr. Frederick Douglass Stubs of Philadelphia will outline problems of training for Negro doctors and nurses.

Friday morning, June 21, will be given over to the subject of legal defense and education, with a discussion of cases carried forward by the national office as well as legal defense activities of the branches.

Saturday morning, June 22, will be the final business session where members of the nominating committee will be elected and the reports of the resolutions and time and place committees voted upon.

Special Events For Delegates

Get Acquainted Reception, Wednesday night, June 19, after the mass meeting, rendezvous with Philadelphia clubs at the Y.W.C.A., 1605 Catherine Street.

Luncheon, Thursday, June 20, one o'clock p.m. in honor of attorneys who have won victories before the U. S. supreme court.

Youth dinner, Thursday, June 20, 5 p.m.

Youth dance, Friday, June 21, 11 p.m.

Sightseeing tour, Saturday, June 22, 12:30 p.m.

Garden Party, Wednesday, June 22, 3:30 p.m., Botanical Gardens of the University of Pennsylvania with the Allied Social Agencies as hostesses.

Good Entertainment And Fine Food for Delegates

The sore spot of so many conferences and conventions—good food, at reasonable prices, served with dispatch—has received the particular attention of the host committee. Result: Holland's, one of the foremost caterers and restaurateurs of Philadelphia, will manage the conference dining room which will also be at the conference headquarters, Tindley Temple, Broad and Fitzwater Streets. Holland's caters to some of the largest gatherings in this city, including the Flower Show which attracts some 50,000 people. Holland's one of the oldest Negro firms, will also use Haitian Coffee and Brown Bomber bread, thus boosting two other race enterprises.

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Next in importance to eating is living and sleeping accommodations. That is why housing has been put under Miss Mamie Davis, executive secretary of the Southwest Y.W.C.A. Committees are visiting each home where delegates will stop; they are telling what each accommodation must include and they are explaining the system of registration which protects and expedites, in the interest both of the delegate and host. Miss Davis directed housing for the National Negro Congress two years ago and has been giving the accolade for this kind of project ever since. Yes, it has been stressed that there are to be no extra charges for hot baths, etc.

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Miss Beulah Creditt, school teacher, has succeeded in having a large turnout of all her committee meetings as she makes plans for the free hours of the delegates. A sightseeing trip, a visit to the great John Wanamaker's store, for those desiring it, an opening reception, and a garden party on the closing Saturday afternoon, are already on the program. The garden party hosts will be the Allied Social Agencies Aid and the affair will be held in the beautiful Horticultural Gardens of the University of Pennsylvania. There is also talk that the joint chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority may repeat their "Revue Americana" for the visitors.

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As usual, the dance will be under the

auspices of the Youth Council, as will also the annual youth banquet.

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Miss Phyllis Berry heads a corps of young women who will be ready with all kinds of information—from where is Independence Hall to how to get back home, etc., etc. In addition, the Philadelphia Transportation company will direct any delegate how to get around the city if he calls PENnypacker 6100.

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During the week, choruses will furnish music at the evening meetings, with the music on the closing Sunday afternoon by a massed choir from the several churches. Mrs. Florida Williams will also have ushers from every church usher board officiating during the several nights.

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Assistant Director of Public Safety Herbert E. Millen, long active in the branch, will have on hand adequate uniformed police, both to protect the visitors and to help them out of any tight spot. Boy scouts will also do their good turn.

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The permanent offices of the Philadelphia N.A.A.C.P. is at 1605 Catherine Street, (Southwest Y.M.C.A.). Convention mail should be addressed there since it will provide a 24-hour service. Delegates should instruct those writing to add "N.A.A.C.P. Conference" in the lower left-hand corner of all envelopes. Delegates' mail will get the most careful and speedy attention.

Albert Einstein Speaks For Princeton, N. J. Branch

The Princeton Branch presented its Second Annual Inter-racial Good Will Hour program on Sunday afternoon, April 28. The exercises were held in the auditorium of the new Witherspoon School before a gathering of more than five hundred people. B. Woodhull Davis, supervisor of Princeton Public Schools, presided and the Motet Choir of the Westminster Choir College of Princeton rendered several musical selections. Walter White, executive secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., the principal speaker was introduced by the Reverend Frank S. Niles, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Princeton. Mr. White spoke on the subject: "What Happens to Democracy When It Encounters the Color Line?" The Branch was further honored at these exercises by the presence of Professor Albert Einstein, internationally famous for his Theories of Relativity. Prof. Einstein was introduced by Dr. David W. Anthony, president of the N. J. Conference of Branches. In his talk Professor Einstein congratulated the organization for the results it had achieved and encouraged the association to strive on for even greater successes. He stated: "Every man and woman who is sincerely devoted to the ideal and spirit of democracy must be your ally in your just struggle for real equality of rights." Others taking part on the program were: Rev. D. J. Brown, Mt Pisgah A. M. E. Church, Rev. William L. Tucker, pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, Howard B. Waxwood, principal of the new Witherspoon School, and T. Howard Miller, Membership chairman. Among the twenty-three new memberships secured were those of Prof. Albert Einstein, Charles R. Erdman Jr., mayor of Princeton, Mrs. H. R. Shipman (Gold Certificate) Mrs. Edith F. Chamberlain, Rev. and Mrs. Frank S. Niles, Mrs. Henry L. Clarke, Dr. Paul Martin, Helene Dukas and Mrs. Emma Commander.

Branch News

Alabama: As a result of vigorous protests to the Census Bureau against employment discrimination affecting Negroes in southern cities, J. L. LeFlore, chairman of the Regional Conference of Southern Branches, at Mobile, reports that five colored census enumerators were placed there. Atlanta is the nearest city where other Negro workers were found.

California: The Los Angeles branch has just closed the most successful membership campaign in its history, by raising $2,000. George A. Beavers, Jr., vice-president of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Co., acted as general chairman of the campaign. The slogan was "Put your name on the Citizens' Honor Roll of Democracy by joining or renewing your membership in the NAACP." The plan of the campaign was fashioned after a football game with $100 representing ten yards, and there were two divisions. Mrs. A. Hill headed the "Kenny Washington All Stars" Division and A. J. Kelley Williams headed the "Fred Douglass Warriors." Awards were made to the division leader, the team captain and the individual raising the most money. These trophies were donated by the Angelus Funeral Home, Conner-Johnson Undertaking Co., and the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Co. To Mrs. Hill went the prize for raising $1,116.32 with her division. Dr. H. C. Hudson won the prize for the team raising the most money, which was $290. A. J. Kelley won the award for individual work.

Connecticut: Mrs. Eunice H. Carter, of New York, was guest speaker at a dinner meeting of the Bridgeport branch, at which time she spoke of the Negro problem of employment. Others who took part in the program were the Rev. Fred Hoskins, the Rev. F. W. Jacobs, the Rev. Aaron J. Cuffee, and Mrs. Marie J. Whiting, chairman of the dinner committee.

Delaware: A cabaret entertainment on May 17 and a tag day parade May 18 opened the campaign to enroll 750 members in the Wilmington branch. Committee heads were P. J. Harris, L. J. Porter and Pauline A. Young.

Illinois: P. E. China discussed Negro history at a recent meeting of the Decatur branch at St Peter's African Methodist church.

Members of the Evanston branch gathered to listen to the broadcast discussion of the anti-lynching bill in April. Rev. B. W. McLawler was the guest speaker at the May 5 mass meeting of the branch.

Indiana: The Hammond branch met in April with the candidates of the major political parties. Republican candidates were introduced by Harvey Cleland, and the democrats by Edward C. Dowling.

Iowa: Representatives of the branches at Des Moines, Mason City, Waterloo, Ottumwa, Keokuk and Marshalltown met at Des Moines on April 26, to form the Iowa conference of branches. Conference officers elected were Mrs. Georgine C. Morris, Des Moines, president; Dr. G. E. Ferguson, Waterloo, vice-president; Mrs. Gladys Carr, Des Moines, secretary; and the Rev. Paul Scott of Mason City, treasurer. The officers with S. Joe Brown, Des Moines; M. F. Field, Waterloo; R. O. Winston, Ottumwa; Mrs. A. A. McGinty, Mason City, and Mrs. C. D. Bland, Keokuk, will form the executive committee. First objective of the conference was announced as a movement to suppress what was reported to be the segregation of Negro patients in the state tuberculosis sanatorium at Oakdale.

W. E. Simmons, councilman, was guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Marshalltown branch. Reports of the state conference were delivered by delegates Mrs. Addie Howard, Rose Bannon and Mrs. S. A. Nelson. Others taking part in the meeting were Rev. Kindrick of Des Moines, Mrs. Artice Mexwell and Mrs. Christina McDonald.

Kentucky: Steps toward inaugurating a recreation program for Negroes were taken when a group from the Recreation Advisory Council met with a committee from the Middleboro branch. Discussion centered about plans for obtaining a reading room and playground, and the formation of a softball league, with a possibility of using the colored school building as the recreation center.

At a mass meeting in May, the Louisville branch sent protests to Senators Chandler and Barkley for their attitudes toward the anti-lynching bill.

Louisiana: The New Orleans branch has protested against seating arrangements at the Municipal Auditorium. On the occasion of the Marian Anderson concert on May 6, only balcony seats were for sale for Negroes.

Maryland: Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, president of the Baltimore branch, recently addressed a letter to all the white citizens through the daily paper, to cooperate in the fight being made by Negro organizations to reduce the number of taverns in Negro residential sections. In view of the effect on delinquency of such places, it was requested that liquor licenses not be issued within 300 feet of the churches, schools and certain institutions.

The Cumberland branch co-sponsored a turkey dinner on May 2, funds from which were for the benefit of their proposed community center.

Massachusetts: The Boston branch has just completed a highly successful membership campaign with the aid of the Inter-

denominational Ministers Alliance and the Baptist Ministers Conference, and under the direction of George B. Murphy, Jr., of the national office.

Attorney Joseph Ferreira gave an illustrated talk on his trip to Portugal at a recent meeting of the New Bedford branch.

Attorney Raymond T. King told the audience that what the Association could accomplish would be in proportion to the size of its active membership, at the opening of the Springfield branch membership drive. Rev. E. L. Blake gave the invocation at the meeting, of which Mrs. Stella P. Thomas was chairman. C. Raymond Babcock was director of the drive.

Michigan: Charles H. MaHoney was the principal speaker at the April meeting of the Lansing branch, the beginning of its spring membership campaign. The speaker is the president of the Great Lakes Mutual Insurance Company.

Loring B. Moore, assistant attorney general of Illinois, was principal speaker at a peace and anti-lynching rally of the Detroit branch.

Minnesota: The Minneapolis branch and other organizations won a six day battle to halt the showing of the anti-Negro film "Birth of a Nation" when the acting mayor ordered the closing of the picture.

Missouri: The St. Louis branch has reported a very successful campaign, under the leadership of A. D. Torrey. Mr. Torrey, raised more than his quota of $125.00, and as a result of his activities and the cooperation of David Knox and Ruel Scott, more than one hundred members in the pullman yards are members. Lawrence Whitson, president of the Moving Picture Operators' Union, reported one hundred percent membership, as did also the Universal Life Insurance Co., and the Summer high school faculty under the leadership of Lucien P. Garrett. Attorney Sidney A. Redmon and Mrs. Melba Sweet reported the largest amounts of money.

The Kansas City branch, of which Carl R. Johnson is president, presented Mayor John B. Gage and Alderman Earl B. Dickerson as principal speakers at the April mass meeting.

E. Frederic Morrow, co-ordinator of branches, was presented by the St. Joseph branch as guest speaker at its May meeting.

New Jersey: The ladies auxiliary of the Morristown branch met at the Phyllis Wheatley Club rooms on May 8, for its spring conference.

The Oratorical contest promoted by the Princeton branch under the leadership of Mrs. Margaret Thompson was held in the Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. church, April 26, to a large gathering. The subject upon which the ten contestants spoke was, "Youth's Responsibility in a Democracy." First prize was won by Kathleen Montgomery, second by Mary Teague, and Marcia Moss received honorable mention. Other competing were Barbara Hall, Vivian Johnson, Margaret Gordon, Adolphus Buggs, Calvin Anderson, Andrew Hatcher and James Duggar. All contestants were given Junior memberships and certificates of merit for competing in the contest. The contest will be promoted as an annual affair by the branch.

The Montclair branch presented Walter White, national secretary, as guest speaker at the closing meeting of the membership campaign in May.

Rev. J. W. P. Collier, Jr., of Scotch Plains, addressed a public meeting of the Rahway branch at the Ebenezer church in April. The program included solos by Mrs. Louise Pippinger and Gladys Madden; a reading by Inez Aiken. President John D. Madden made a membership appeal, and asked that members write to the Senators asking support of the anti-lynching bill. Mrs. Luther Burns was in charge of the program.

The Paterson branch opened its membership campaign with a well attended dinner in April. Dean Pickens was the principal speaker and Dr. Norman T. Cotton responded. The campaign culminated in May with a meeting at which George B. Murphy, Jr., national director of publicity, was guest speaker. Dr. A. D. Maxwell was chairman of memberships, and Mrs. Fannie Curtis is president of the branch.

New York: The fourth annual conference of the New York state branches was held May 4 and 5 in Albany, and the topic of discussion was the effect of recent legislation upon the Negro in New York state. Principal speaker was Assistant District Attorney Francis E. Rivers, and the discussion leader was Eardlie John, assistant Corporation Counsel of New York City, and there were many other participants in the well attended conference. Mrs. George D. Bowks is president of the host branch, and James E. Allen, president of the conference.

Meeting at the home of Benjamin Morrel, residents of Mamaroneck have set up a committee for the organization of a local branch.

Mrs. Bertha Webb is the chairman of the New Rochelle spring membership drive, which ends June 9.

April activities of the Peekskill branch included a meeting at which Albert Swank, president of the Faculty association, and Mrs. Oliver Gilbert, were speakers. A cake sale was held the end of the month, and a get-together tea was held May 26.

Rev. P. K. Fonville of the Mt. Vernon A.M.E. church spoke at the April meeting of the White Plains branch. Also on the program were Dr. Stephanie Davis and Gerald Summers, with musical numbers.

Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett presented the Bennett College Choir on May 6, in a concert sponsored by the Rochester branch. An overwhelmingly cordial reception was tendered Dr. Dett who is an accomplished musician and composer.

Residents of the Bronx, a borough of New York City, have formed a branch there. At the first mass meeting sponsored by the branch, speakers presented were Borough President Lyons, Mrs. Vivian Mason of the Welfare department, Attorney Thurgood Marshall, and Rev. William L. Imes.

North Carolina: Professor W. H. Hannon of Livingston college was guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Winston-Salem branch.

Ohio: Hubert T. Delaney, tax commissioner of New York city spoke under the auspices of the Cleveland branch, of which Grant Reynolds is president, on May 5. The meeting was one of the events of the annual membership drive. Dr. N. K. Christopher is campaign chairman and Eleanor Alexander is campaign director.

The Allen-co branch of Lima presented E. Frederic Morrow on May 3 at a mass meeting held in the interest of a membership drive. Officers of the branch are Rev. L. C. McGee, president; W. A. Baker, and Harry Vaughn, vice-presidents; Mrs. G. J. Johnson, secretary; Elmer Woodley, assistant secretary; and R. K. Jones, treasurer.

Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin was the main speaker at a mass meeting held recently by the Youngstown branch. Other speakers were Pliny Powers and Paul Strait. Dr. S. S. Booker is chairman of the drive.

Pennsylvania: Nearly 400 persons attended a dance sponsored by the Philadelphia branch on April 26, in order to raise funds to finance plans for the national conference there in June.

One of the features of the May meeting of the Media branch was panel discussion, in charge of Percy O. Batipps, on the topic of race prejudice. Participants were Mrs. Florence Martin, Robena Shumate, and Leslie Polk. Letters and telegrams urging support of the anti-lynching bill were sent to Senators Barkley, Davis and Guffey. The annual dance conducted by the branch was held May 30 at the Club Del Rio.

Texas: A very successful forum and mass meeting was held in April by the Ft. Worth branch at the Shiloh Baptist church. Rev. J. W. Washington, pastor of the church, presented Mrs. F. M. Williams, chairman of the education committee and public forum of the branch. After these brief talks, Dr. R. A. Ransom, introduced the guest speaker, Rev. Bert Helm, pastor of St. John's church, who spoke eloquently on democracy. A mass chorus amply filled out the program with a number of well rendered songs. Dr. George D. Flemmings is president of the branch.

Washington: The Tacoma branch, of which Dr. E. E. Elmore is president, held its annual membership drive in May. Members in charge were Mrs. Nettie J. Asberry, chairman, James L. Beck, Dr. Elmore, Dr. L. C. Bowling, Eliza G. McCabe, E. B. Wilson, Harold Morris, Lewis McCabe, and J. A. G. Washington.

West Virginia: The Charleston branch was sponsor of a recital by Marian Anderson, in the Municipal Auditorium in April. Belford V. Lawson, of the District of Columbia, was guest speaker at a meeting in May.

Chairmen of standing committees of the Logan branch have been announced as the following: Howard Ball, executive committee; J. E. Turner, membership; James Cleveland, education; Dr. H. T. Elliott, legal redress; Miss C. B. Walker, junior committee; Harry Saunders, labor and industry; Mrs. Flora Gardner, entertainment, and W. C. Thomas, publicity. L. H. Richardson is president of the branch.

Los Angeles Asks 1941 Conference

The Los Angeles, Calif, branch is sending its president, Thomas L. Griffith, Jr., to Philadelphia to present in person the invitation of the branch to the delegates to meet in Los Angeles in 1941. The annual conference has met on the Pacific Coast only once—in 1928. The Los Angeles branch invited the conference at Columbus, in 1938, and again at Richmond, in 1939. President Griffith says his branch will not take "no" for an answer this third time.

The Treasurer Says—

Miss Ovington

A WEEK after the May CRISIS was published I received a letter from a resident of Corona, New York, asking for further information regarding the making of a bequest to the association. I can assure CRISIS readers that it is a pleasure to me to find that some people do not skip my page. In giving the desired information I made clear, what I trust was clear in the May article, that the association only advises upon the matter of a bequest to its work. The drawing up of the whole will is, of course, in the hands of the testator's lawyer.

Membership Drives in Progress

This is the period of spring drives when membership figures and checks come to us in gratifying numbers. Many of our staff have been upon the road, old friends to the branches and new. Among them, our youth director, the Reverent James H. Robinson, who is leaving us to devote his whole time to the church. These men and women have addressed large audiences and given wholeheartedly of their knowledge and enthusiasm. But they would tell you that the essential service comes from local people, the busy staff of officers and drive leaders who sacrifice time and money to bring the people of their communities into our organization. I have done enough field work myself to realize that each check we receive represents days of campaigning. The crowded church in which the national officer makes his speech is the triumphant ending of weeks of hard work.

I cannot resist turning aside for a moment to tell of a crowded audience that was once arranged for me at Long Beach, California. It was preceded by a branch meeting held in the largest of the community halls, an evening meeting, when it rained, flooding the town. A Southern Californian knows what that is like, others can only imagine. After jumping on two running boards and over a good-sized stream, I found ten people assembled in the great auditorium. I don't believe that the virtuous should suffer so I gave my prepared speech. After the meeting was over a white man came to me and said: "I appreciate your giving your speech to so few people. If you'll come back I'll fill this hall." "Really fill it?" I asked. He said he would and we arranged for my return. True enough. When I came back the next month, every seat in the great auditorium was filled. Numerically it was a grand gathering, but financially the returns were small as the men were all veterans from the Soldiers' Home.

Cooperation of Clergy

The branch officers arrange the meetings, but it is the minister who gives the meeting place. Mrs. Lampkin writes that she thinks it would be safe to say that 99 per cent of our meetings for the past 31 years have been held in churches. And this with the full cooperation of the minister. "They have rarely charged for services," she says, "and have donated heat, light, and usually the services of the choir. In most cases they have taken the lead in contributions and memberships and have endorsed the work of the N.A.A.C.P."

I myself have often marvelled at their generosity. I don't think you would find it in the average white church. But the Negro church is a democratic meeting ground and from the beginning of our work has always welcomed us. Now in this spring drive all over the country we are meeting in the churches, we have church teams, and sometimes we have the opportunity to speak at the regular services. "In Chicago," Mrs. Lampkin writes, "I have been allowed the privilege of occupying the Sunday service hour in the largest A.M.E. church in that city. A prominent Baptist minister, while pastoring in Atlanta said: 'If I had my way when a person presents himself for membership in this church, I would say first, show me your N.A.A.C.P., membership card as I know if a person is not interested in the program of the N.A.A.C.P., he will hardly make a good church member.'"

All denominations cooperate in our program these busy days when each branch is trying to raise its quota. The churches will be open for our gatherings and in many pulpits our work for justice and equality of the races will be praised and encouraged financially as well as other ways.

I wish I might print a roster of the clergy that have so generously helped in the association's cause. But it would not be possible on a CRISIS page. I know best our friends in New York, some of whom have been members of our Board. When we organized, the Reverened Hutchens Bishop of St. Philips Episcopal church was with us and remained with us until his death. We long had the wise guidance of Bishop John Hurst, and the Reverend W. H. Brooks of St. Marks was also an organizer. These are in the past. Today, New York churches help as always. Our outstanding church this year is Mt. Olivet Baptist church. May she soon have a rival.

The bookkeeper has handed me the last figures for receipts from membership campaigns of the branches to date this year, $11,467. That's not bad for May 12.

Youth Council News

300 Delegates to Hear Leaders at Philadelphia

Three hundred delegates are expected to attend the youth section of the 31st annual conference of the N.A.A.C.P. in Philadelphia June 18–23, and attend the discussions led by outstanding figures in youth work.

Speakers and leaders of discussion groups will include: George W. Goodman, executive secretary of the Washington Urban League; Malcolm Cotton Dobbs, secretary, Council of Youth Southerners, Nashville, Tenn.; Harriet Ida Pickens, executive secretary, Harlem Tuberculosis and Health Center, New York City; Prof. Henry P. McGuinn, department of Social Sciences, Virginia Union university, Richmond, Va.; Lewis Conn, director, campaign for youth needs, New York City; J. N. Williams, branch secretary, Y.M.C.A., Montclair, N. J., and adviser to the Montclair youth council; Reynold M. Costa, assistant director of Negro Affairs for Massachusetts under the N.Y.A., and president of the Boston youth council; William Anderson, president, Greenville, S. C. youth council; Bathrus Bailey, president, Virginia Union university N.A.A.C.P college chapter, which was host to the First Annual Student Conference held recently.

Youth sessions will be held in the Y.M.C.A., 1605 Catherine street, and the joint sessions with adults will be at

A youth council of the Kansas City, Mo., branch was organized in March at a banquet for young people at the R. T. Coles school cafeteria. Members of the senior branch present were Miss Elsie M. Mountain, Earl D. Thomas, Carl R. Johnson, Edward H. Pate, Girard T. Byant and Mrs. Mary Sirls, junior work organizer. Charter members of the junior branch are: Dovie Patricia Jones, president; Edna Louise Caldwell, Geraldine Whisonant, Elbert Williams, Carter McGee, Oakereader King, Candis Bell, Caulbert Livingstone, Albalouise Livingston, Bernice Appleton, Keith Pittman, Leroy Haugh, Mildred Franklin, Delo Gray, Samuel Jones, Uldine Johnson, Georgia Barton, Booker T. McDonald, Rosetta Kallas, Gladys Tate, Ozell Bryant, Ardella Wright, Annie Lee Kountz, Joyce Bunn, Lura McKittrick, Edith Woodard, LaFelda Finney, Anna Louise McKay, Lois Harmon and Lilla Mae Godley

the conference headquarters in Tindley Temple.

This year the entire delegation will hear each discussion leader and not be split up as heretofore into smaller groups.

The general topic of Social Security will be broken down into discussions on economic security, jobs, social security legislation, all in their relationship to the total population of American youth, and the more peculiar problems of Negro youth.

In the area of Community Planning, the discussion will be centered around public health and its related fields of health clinics, health services, national and local, which are available, preventative medicine, and hospitalization.

In the field of Citizenship Participation of Youth, the problems of physical security, with emphasis on lynching and anti-lynching legislation, franchise, and the abolition of the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting, will be dealt with.

One hour each morning preceding the discussions will be devoted solely to youth council problems. Three persons will be assigned to study carefully the problems presented to them the day before, and prescribe a method of solution, and will also be prepared to answer questions from the floor.

For recreation, there will be informal luncheon meetings where delegates and leaders can meet in a spirit of fellowship and camaraderie, give way to laughter and song, and continue their discussions. Of course, there will be the traditional youth fellowship banquet, the youth dance, and an added feature of a picnic and sightseeing trip after the final business session on Saturday morning. Friday, as usual, will be designated as Youth Day.

The Reverend James H. Robinson, acting youth director of the N.A.A.C.P., has issued several calls to the youth councils and reports enthusiastic response. The Philadelphia council under the leadership of Frances Gardner is prepared to make the conference a memorable one for delegates. On to Philadelphia!

British People

(*Continued from page* 174)

there may have been many setbacks but there is much to hearten sympathizers in the fact that the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the House of Commons in November 30 was able to make the following statement of policy —and there was hardly a dissenting voice raised in criticism:—

"If our relationships with the Colonial people is that of trustees, our policy in the Colonies must be based on two principles. In the first place, we must, as long as we are responsible, give them good government. . . . We must in the second place be training the people of the Colonies for ultimate self-government, and that policy we are pursuing steadily, persistently and faithfully throughout the Colonial Empire. We are not only training people in all the Colonial territories to fill the technical services of the Government, to be their own Medical officers, medical assistants, nurses and midwives; we are not only training them to be their own agricultural officers and their own labor officers; we are not only training them to be their own education officers and school-teachers; but we are training them also to take part in the work of legislation itself. . . . H. M. Government holds the view that it is a fundamental condition of a better Europe and of a better world that all peoples shall be free to live their own lives according to their own particular means and traditions and genius, and provided that they do not interfere with the similar rights which belong to other peoples as well."

French Policy

(*Continued from page* 173)

has come for them to receive political assimilation. It is hoped that, if this war ends in the victory of the Allies, the empire will develop into a vast community of peoples and races, where each man will be able to be fully a Sudanese, a Congolese, or a Tunisian, while being, at the same time, a Frenchman, which is more; still more, a man.

The Negro American tourist, student or soldier were not mistaken in their intuition and experience that in France they received the most human treatment possible for a colored person in a white nation today. French colonials regret that the colonial administration has not always recruited its personnel among the most truly French elements of France. They know, however, that French law and the genius of French civilization are greater and better than an individual mercenary's defects. Despite political and economic unequalities, they feel that theirs too is the double heritage of twenty centuries of Christianity and one hundred and fifty years of revolutionary tradition. Like some of their American race-brothers, they realize that French democracy is worth preserving, for the benefit of the colored races, the world over, and for the benefit of many a white nation which still has to learn from France how to treat a person, regardless of his race and origin, as a human being, as a human personality.

NEXT MONTH

An extremely timely article entitled, "The Negro in the United States Navy" will appear in our July number. Its revelations are almost incredible, and it constitutes one of the strongest indictments of American democracy ever penned. Its author is a colored U. S. Seaman.

Book Reviews

PROBLEMS IN GRADUATE INSTRUCTION

GRADUATE INSTRUCTION FOR NEGROES IN THE UNITED STATES. By Fred McCuistion, Ph.D. Nashville: George Peabody College for Teachers, 1939. XVIII +172 pp.

This monograph is the doctoral dissertation of the former Executive Agent of the Committee on Approval of Negro Schools of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and is hence the work of a man well qualified to make the study.

When Dr. DuBois published *The College-Bred Negro* in 1902, he listed only thirty-three Negro institutions which at that time gave instruction on the collegiate level. He, of course, included Berea in his list because Berea at that time admitted Negroes. These thirty-three Negro colleges enrolled, however, only 750 students. In 1937 there were one hundred and ten Negro colleges with an enrollment of 35,350 students on the collegiate level. At the time Dr. DuBois made his study he reported that "In most cases the college departments of these institutions are but adjuncts, and sometimes unimportant adjuncts, to other departments devoted to secondary and primary work." Today, however, five of our collegiate institutions offer work leading to the master's degree. In 1902 the problem was how to raise standards in order to give adequate collegiate training; today the problem is how to raise the qualitative standards of the undergraduate college in order to give graduate work and to furnish adequate facilities for graduate study.

Because seventeen of the southern and border states are required by law to maintain separate schools for whites and Negroes, the problem of graduate study for these Negroes becomes very acute. And the Supreme Court decision in the Gaines case has taken the problem from the realm of theory and brought it home to every white and colored educator and administrator in the Southern States. It is the aim of the N.A.A.C.P. to open the doors of the southern state universities to qualified Negro graduate students. But with the exception of a few border states, the majority of southern states are not going to admit Negro students to their graduate schools. A widespread movement is already on foot to set up jim crow graduate schools in the segregated Negro state colleges. The reasons for this are practical, because the paucity of Negro graduate students in any one southern state will not justify the expensive outlay for graduate work even theoretically equivalent to that offered the whites, and because few universities are going to do the sensible thing and admit the few Negroes who might apply. A pragmatic solution is going to be undertaken along two lines: the establishment of the previously mentioned jim crow graduate schools, and scholarship provisions for graduate study outside the state. Both of these solutions, it is obvious, dodge the central issue: the admission of Negroes to the present state universities.

Five Negro institutions now offer graduate work leading to the master's degree, but hardly more than three of them are qualified to do such work. They are Howard, Atlanta, and Fisk. Since the majority of the Negro colleges have still to offer standard undergraduate work, for them to offer graduate work is more of a menace than a benefit. Even white southern graduate schools are for the most part inferior in equipment and standards to those found in the best universities of the country. There are probably not more than three or four first-rate white graduate schools in the entire South and with this glaring deficiency even for the whites we can easily imagine what the Negro graduate school is going to be like. Their standards will possibly measure up to those of the best New England colleges—if and when they are established.

Yet the demand for Negro graduate study is going to increase because of the expansion of the Negro college and the higher educational standards which are even now being demanded by accrediting agencies and local southern boards of education. For some time to come we may expect a majority of the Negro teachers to continue to pursue their graduate studies in the large universities of the North and the Central West. Enrollment in the present Negro institutions which offer graduate study is probably going to show a marked increase in the next few years because graduate students are showing a preference for schools near their homes. This means that the present problems of graduate study in Negro colleges are going to be intensified.

As Dr. McCuistion points out, the special problems relating to graduate instruction for Negroes are many and serious. In addition to the graduate problems of all graduate schools the Negro school faces the problem of inadequate support, inadequate library facilities, lack of a corps of trained scholars, of an educational program, and lack of access to records and other research material. "The graduate degree is taking on some significance and prestige in two or more institutions, but there is yet a great gap to be closed if graduate degrees from institutions for Negroes are to have full recognition." "The Negro school must serve a minority group which has a limited opportunity for self-determination, with many social and economic problems peculiar to itself. The graduate institutions and their students must face the research barriers resulting from race prejudice and other forms of discrimination."

Anyone interested in Negro education will find this monograph invaluable. Our author studies all the problems attendant upon graduate instruction for Negroes: education below the graduate level, the need for graduate instruction for Negroes, the graduate curriculum, the Negro graduate student outside the South, professional curricula in Negro schools, the legal provisions by states for Negro graduate and professional study, the early training of the Negro graduate student, his reasons for graduate study, his scholastic aptitude, his financial support, and the graduate faculty of Negro graduate institutions. A very significant study.

JAMES W. IVY

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THE

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A DOUGLASS PAMPHLET

It is refreshing to call attention to the organization of the Frederick Douglass Historical and Cultural League of New York City. The purpose of the organization is to revive study of Douglass and his works and to bring anew to the people of today publications of the great Abolitionists's writings and speeches. The first of these publications is the *Oration Delivered by Frederick Douglass at the Unveiling of the Freedmen's Monument in Memory of Abraham Lincoln* (New York: The Pathway Press, 209 West 125th St. 25¢ a copy; $2.50 per dozen.) Attractively printed on good paper this pamphlet makes available to readers one of Douglass' best orations. Douglass was a great platform speaker and this speech helps one to understand why.

JAMES W. IVY

AN EBON MUSE

PLÁCIDO, POETA Y MÁRTIR. Por M. Garcia Garófalo Mesa. Mexico City: Ediciones Botas, 1938. 299 pp. 2 pesos Mexican.

The Negroes of North America have produced no poets to compare with those given to world literature by their brothers in Latin America. Nicaragua has given us Rubén Darío; Brazil, Gonçalves Dias and Tobias Barreto; Haiti, Oswald Durand; and Cuba, Diego Gabriel de la Concepción Valdés, better known, however, as Plácido.

Plácido, Poet and *Martyr* is not a full-length, critical biography of the poet, but an episodic sketch, in the main, of his life while a resident of Villa-Clara. Diego Gabriel de la Concepción was the son of a Spanish dancer from Burgos, Concepción Vásquez, and the mulatto wig-maker, Diego Ferrer y Matoso. The name Valdés he took from the founder of the foundling asylum in which he spent his first years. His pseudonym of Plácido he is supposed to have taken from the title of Madame Genlis' novel *Plácido y Blanca* out of sympathy for the protagonist. Plácido's early life was spent with his paternal grandmother and his early schooling was under "the excellent educator and poet Don Pedro del Sol." At twelve our poet studied drawing under the Cuban painter Vicente Escobar; at fourteen he became an apprentice in the printery of Jose Severino Boloña, a writer and lover of poetry; "at sixteen he quit the workshop of Boloña to learn comb-making."

Fame first came to Plácido with a poem he

(*Continued on next page*)

LEGAL DIRECTORY

Responding to frequent inquiries, THE CRISIS carries herewith the names and addresses with telephone numbers of some of the 1300 colored attorneys in the United States, purely as a service to those seeking such information. THE CRISIS does not maintain a legal bureau, as many readers seem to think, and the N.A.A.C.P. concerns itself only with cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights. Lawyers whose names do not appear below are requested to write to THE CRISIS.

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Theron B. Hamilton
806 Wylie Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Telephone: Grant 3137; Residence: Schenly 3298

Theodore O. Spaulding
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Telephone: Dial 2-7237

WEST VIRGINIA

Harry J. Capehart & Leon P. Miller
18 Virginia Avenue, Welch, W. Va.
Telephone: 289

Book Reviews

(*Continued from page* 187)

wrote for the garland given to the Spanish poet Martínez de la Rosa. Plácido's "La Siempreviva" won high praise and quickly made the author the hero of the *fiesta.*

"With the nimbus of fame and popularity on his brow Plácido returned in 1836 to Matanzas where he published the first collection of his poetry and collaborated on the famous periodical *Aurora de Matanzas.* Despite his renown as a poet Plácido continued his trade of comb-maker." About 1840 he took up permanent residence at Villa-Clara where he made a modest living at his trade. It was while living at Villa-Clara that the poet became closely associated with the distinguished white families of the town, in whose salons he was always a welcome guest, and a few notable people of color. Much of his best poetry first appeared in the pages of *El Eco* of that city. Among them were his sonnet "A Villa-Clara," "El Juramento," and "La Envidia."

Plácido was thin, of medium height, with a pale yellow skin, and curly hair. He had an open oval face with a Greek nose and thin lips. His expression was sympathetic with that frequent childish pride which alternates between audacity and melancholy. He had a silvery voice and was eloquent and incisive in his speech. "One distinguished the genius at first sight." Plácido married Maria Gil Romona Morales in 1841.

In February, 1844, Plácido, then thirty-four years old, was accused, along with some of his companions, of being a ringleader in a conspiracy against the white race. The poet stayed in La Vigía fortress four months before thirty-two accusations were made against him and his companions. Later he and ten of his companions were ordered to be shot for high treason and as "presumptive assassins of the white race." At six o'clock, Friday, June 28, 1844, Plácido and his ten companions were executed before a crowd of more than twenty thousand who had been attracted by the fame of the martyred poet. Plácido's death marked the end of an epoch in Cuban letters.

Much of Plácido's poetry is occasional in character, birthday congratulations, condolences, and the like. Among his best lyrical pieces are the *letrillas* (short poems, generally written to be sung) "La Flor del Café," "La Flor de Pina," etc. Among his poems with a historical theme is the remarkable composition "Jicotencal," remarkable because the author catches the spirit and movement of the old Spanish ballads. The author's fame in Latin America seems to rest, however, primarily upon a couple of poems written during his imprisonment. The most famous of these is "Despedida a Mi Madre" with the opening line

Si la suerte fatal que me ha caido (If the unfortunate fate engulfing me. . . .)

The late James Weldon Johnson corrected Bryant's version of the poem and added the legend that the poet's mother had lost track of her son. Manuel Sanguily denies this, and so does Senor Mesa. "La Fatalidad" "Adios a Mi Lira" were also written in prison. On his way to the execution Plácido is said to have recited his famous "Plegaria a Dios" ("Public Prayer to God").

Ser de inmensa bondad, Dios poderoso,
A vos acudo en mi dolor vehemente;
Estended vuestro brazo omnipotente
Rasgad de la calumnia el velo odioso,
Y arrancad este sello ignominioso
Con que el mundo manchar quiere mi frente.
(O God of love unbounded! Lord supreme!
In overwhelming grief to thee I fly.
Rending this veil of hateful calumny.
Oh let thine arm of might my fame redeem!
Wipe thou this foul disgrace from off my brow,
With which the world hath sought to stamp it now.)

This is an interesting book and contains some of the poet's best poems. The author also interlards his text with copious comments from Plácido's contemporaries and has dug up an old photograph of the poet for the cover of his book. A book worth reading!

JAMES W. IVY

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Dr. Moorland Dies

Dr. Jesse Edward Moorland, retired National Y.M.C.A. Secretary and trustees of Howard University, died April 30 at the Flower Hospital, New York City, where he had been taken two weeks previously following a heart attack. He was 76 years old.

Dr. Moorland was one of the pioneer colored Y.M.C.A. secretaries, starting in 1891 as general secretary of the "Y" for colored men and boys in Washington, D. C. Following brief pastorates at Nashville, Tenn. and Cleveland, Ohio, he was called to New York to become a member of the International Committee for work among colored young men and boys, 1898. He continued this service until his retirement in 1924.

In his early days with the International Committee, Dr. Moorland was associated with William Alpheus Hunton, the first colored Y.M.C.A. secretary. Upon Mr. Hunton's retirement, Dr. Moorland became Senior Secretary of the Colored Department of the International Committee.

Outstanding in Dr. Moorland's Y.M.C.A. career was his great building program for Negro youth. It was his influence with Julius Rosenwald which resulted in the famous offer by Mr. Rosenwald to give $25,000 to any city in the country that would raise at least $75,000 for the erection of a "Y" for colored men and boys. Before Dr. Moorland's retirement, fourteen buildings had been erected.

Patterson Concert

Massie Patterson, soprano, gave a recital at the Carnegie Chamber Music Hall, New York, May 5. Miss Patterson featured folk songs of the Caribbean lands and presented these selections in native costume.

Kappas Aid NAACP

Louisiana: The New Orleans Alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity turned in a $103.30 membership to the Baton Rouge branch, through Polemarch W. W. Stewart. E. Frederick Morrow, who conducted the drive in Baton Rouge, reported on the fine work the branch is doing. Mrs. Pearl Bennett was chairman of the campaign.

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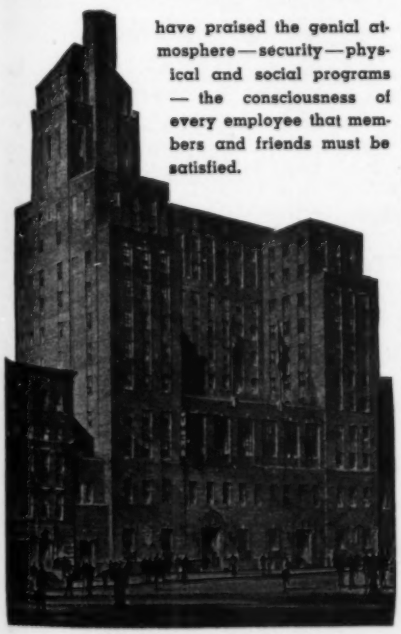
MANY FINE MEN

the country over who lived at the

Harlem Branch Y. M. C. A.



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READ AND ACT

The National Negro Insurance Association reported for 1938:

—Assets of $13,876,788
—Income of $13,251,407.43
—Insurance in force: $265,856,625
—Policies in force: 1,676,854
—Employment: 8,150 Negroes

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Wins in Supreme Court

S. D. McGILL

The brilliant work of Attorney S. D. McGill of the Jacksonville, Fla., Bar has again acclaimed national attention as a result of the United States supreme court's famous Lincoln Day Decision, delivered by Mr. Justice Black, in "Florida's Little Scottsboro Cases."

Mr. McGill was born on a farm near Quincy, Fla., and attended the public schools there.

Mr. McGill, from childhood, had a leaning for the legal profession. While a student in Edward Waters College, he was connected as a part time clerk in the law offices of J. Douglas Wetmore & James Weldon Johnson, then the leading law firm of Florida. After graduating from Edward Waters College in 1901, he went to Massachusetts, where he further prepared himself for his life's work at Harvard and Boston universities. After finishing his legal course in Boston university, he returned to Jacksonville, Fla., and was admitted to the Florida bar. He has been actively engaged in the practice of law since 1908.

Attorney McGill's record as a lawyer is outstanding in his appellate court work. He has had fifty-one written opinions from the Florida supreme court, resulting in over half reversals.

The case which first gave him a national reputation is the Abe Washington case, reported by the supreme court as Washington vs. State. Washington was convicted of murder in the first degree and sentenced to death by hanging March, 1923. The Florida legislature abolished capital punishment by hanging, January, 1924, and substituted therefore punishment of death by electrocution, making no provision for punishment of crime committed before the passage of the act. This case was three times in Florida's supreme court, and the Governor of Florida issued as many death warrants only to have them declared void by the Florida courts at the request of McGill. The defendant still lives.

By far, the most of Attorney McGill's work in court is of a civil nature. In each instance where he has entered a criminal case, it has been to protect the civil rights of the defendants. In the Clay cases, three fifteen-year-old Negro boys, scheduled to die in Florida's electric chair on last Labor Day, the defendants' lives were saved when Attorney McGill voided Governor Cone's death warrants by court action only a few hours before the fatal day.

On to Philadelphia!
31st N.A.A.C.P. Conference
June 18-23, 1940

Comment on War

By LANGSTON HUGHES

Let us kill off youth
For the sake of *truth*.

We who are old know what truth is—
Truth is a bundle of vicious lies
Tied together and sterilized—
A war-makers' bait for unwise youth
To kill off each other
For the sake of
Truth.

Even Unto the End

By "J. B."

Even unto the end I shall love you.
Not because you quench the fever of my soul,
Nor yet because you make me unaware
Of lesser things in life.
I love you for I cannot help myself.
The flame that burns within my heart for you
Was lighted from the torch of the Eternal
And it shall burn undimmed
Even unto the end.

BEAUTIFUL CHILD CONTEST

Entry Blank

Name of Child ..... (first name / middle name / last name)

Age: (Years, months and days) .....

Exact Color: ..... **Color of Eyes:** .....

Color of Hair: ..... **Exact Height:** .....

Exact Weight: ..... **Date of Birth:** .....

Mother's Name: ..... **Father's Name:** .....

Father's Occupation: .....

Mother's Occupation: .....

Address: .....

City or Town: ..... **State:** .....

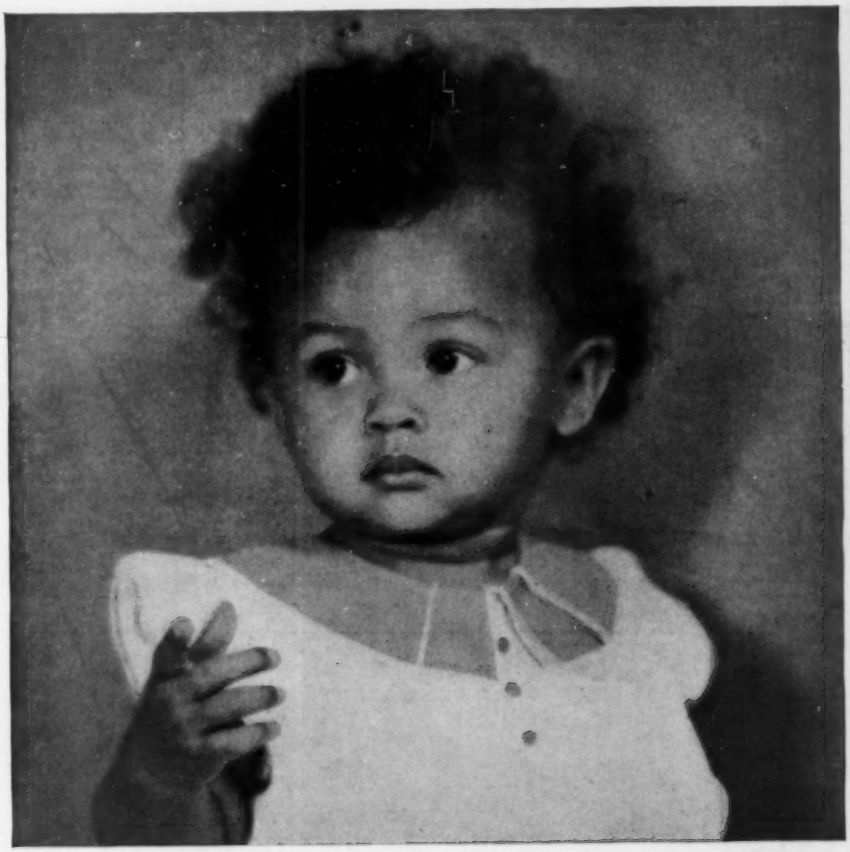
Note: Contest begins May 1, 1940, and ends August 1, 1940. No photographs will be returned unless accompanied by proper postage and self-addressed container. Photographs should be large size and slick finish for good reproduction. Entries received with postmark after midnight August 1, 1940 will *not* be considered.

Each issue of *The Crisis* (June, July and August) will contain six photographs of the most beautiful children selected so far and $1.00 will be paid for each one selected and published.

The September 1940 *Crisis* will carry the photograph of the Grand Prize Winner ($25.00) on the Cover. Inside will appear the second choice ($10.00), the third choice ($5.00), the fourth choice ($3.00), the fifth choice ($2.00) and the sixth choice ($1.00).

The address of *The Crisis* is 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Beautiful Child Contest



COLORED children are conceded to be among the most beautiful in the world by unbiased observers. Here in the United States, where most colored children are of African, Caucasian and Amerindian descent in varying degree, they present a veritable flower garden of beauty, a preview of the human race of the future.

THE CRISIS believes this young beauty should be fittingly revealed to the world. To this end we call upon the proud parents of colored America to cooperate with us in our Beautiful Child Contest which began May 1, 1940 and closes August 1, 1940.

Send in NOW the photograph of YOUR beautiful child, accompanied by the entry blank appearing in THE CRISIS. You may secure a copy of THE CRISIS containing the entry blank by sending fifteen cents in stamps to: THE CRISIS, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York. CHILDREN YOUNGER THAN THREE AND OLDER THAN TWELVE YEARS NOT ELIGIBLE. Entry blank appears on another page.

A slick finish, large size photograph is preferable because it will reproduce better.

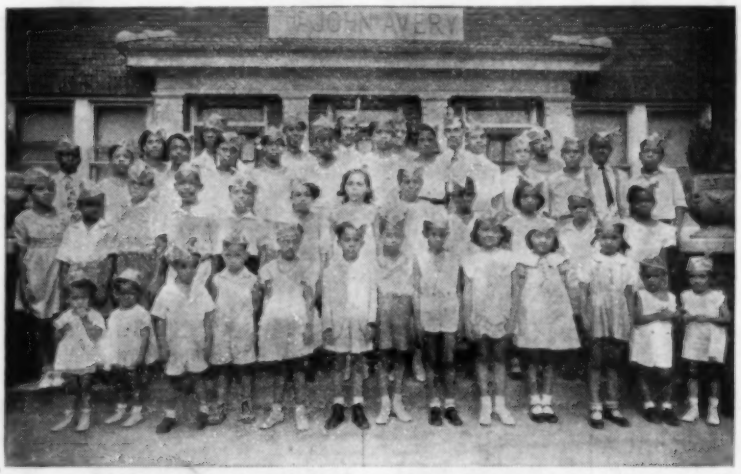
Each month's issue (July and August) will contain photographs of the most beautiful child so far selected and the five next most beautiful, for which $1.00 each will be paid.

Then, in our September, 1940 issue will appear the grand prize winner, and the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth choices selected from ALL photographs submitted before the deadline, August 1, 1940. These prizes will be: $25 for the grand prize, $10 for second choice, $5 for third choice, $3 for fourth choice, $2 for fifth choice and $1 for sixth choice.

Photographs will NOT be returned unless accompanied by return postage and self-addressed container. Photographs postmarked *after midnight, August 1*, will not be considered.

The photograph of the grand prize winner will appear on the cover of the September 1940 issue of THE CRISIS, out September 1, 1940. It will also be given the maximum publicity throughout the nation.

Three impartial judges will be selected to make the choices. They will be outstanding authorities on beauty.



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